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THE לְפָנַי
SHEKEL

**SPECIAL TENTH ANNIVERSARY
TRIPLE ISSUE**



Published by the AMERICAN ISRAEL NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION



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AMERICAN ISRAEL NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 499, FRESH MEADOWS STATION, FLUSHING, NEW YORK 11365

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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF A.I.N.A.

THE SHEKEL is the official publication of the AMERICAN ISRAEL NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION, INC. and will appear six times a year with the purpose of establishing an authoritative source of information and knowledge pertaining to numismatics of Modern and Ancient Israel. THE SHEKEL will bring to all numismatists the most current information available with reference to all related numismatic events.

THE SHEKEL will exist only for the benefit of its readers. To further that purpose, it will coordinate the activities of all with the hope that there will be a meaningful interchange of information, views and ideas through its pages.

THE SHEKEL will strive to be informative, interesting, educational and entertaining. To that end, it will endeavor to obtain articles and treatises from leading authorities in the United States, Israel and from other countries.

Finally, THE SHEKEL will be of interest not only to advanced collectors and numismatists but also to those just starting out on that delightful path leading to greater understanding and knowledge of Israeli numismatics. The opinion of the authors are not necessarily those of the Association.

THE EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK . . .

This issue details the greatest story of America's Bicentennial: the gift of freedom to political hostages at Entebbe through the bravery of the Israel Air Force and the commandos of the Israeli Army. We are grateful to IGCAM for permission to reproduce this specially commissioned report for the booklet accompanying the Entebbe Medal which all will receive so that the story of this dramatic incident in the history of free people will not be lost in future years. We are pleased to announce at this time the extensive preparations now in progress for the largest Shekel in AINA history: the Tenth Anniversary issue. You'll find many of the regular features of The Shekel – and a total review of words, photographs and numismatic evidence of the vitality of our amazing organization. a special editorial team includes the Editor; Morris Bram, president; Nat Sobel, the first editor of The Shekel; David Hendin, a regular Shekel columnist; and longtime contributor and Board member, Mel Wacks.

GEORGE GILBERT, *Editor*

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Morris Bram



We didn't know when we sat about in a room in midtown New York and planned a new numismatic association, one to be a center about which all collectors of Israel's coins and paper money could assemble that we were reaching for the moon.

We really thought back then in 1967 that we should have a group in New York City which would provide a meeting place, an education center, a gathering point for supporters of Israel who were also dedicated numismatic scholars and even historians. We knew that like groups in other cities, such as in Los Angeles where there was an already existing Israel Coin Club, or in a Miami, a Cleveland or Baltimore that we would share our dream with others.

When we thought that some of the members might like to visit Israel together on a Study Tour, it was beyond our wildest imagination that we could fill a bus.

When we thought there should be a small newsletter or a quarterly mailing to tell those in Chicago what was happening to the others in Los Angeles — and even in Tel Aviv, we had no idea that we were launching the dynamic *Shekel*.

We had no idea of East Coast and West Coast conventions; we had no dream as large as community Holyland Expo events; we could not admit to ourselves of collectors forming groups in community after community in and around New York City; in and around Los Angeles; in and around suburban New Jersey.

After all, who were we? A retired businessman named Bram? A housing department official of the City of New York named Sobel? A real estate tax specialist named Janis? An importer named Schuman? Some successful businessmen and a few retirees? None of us were young; none

of us had more than local numismatic club experience. We were not publicists, ad men, specialists in the communications arts and Madison Avenue hucksters.

But we were reaching for the moon . . . and with the help of the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation found that with the help of Israel's Yitzhak Avni and Joe Milo that we could reach even further . . . to the sun. We passed the sun and found that your hands in Miami, and Cleveland, and Boston and Houston . . . from American centers across the map . . . pulled us out to the stars!

Now we are celebrating AINA's *Tenth Anniversary* and we have more Life Members today than we had regular members not so many dreams back.

Now we have completed AINA's *Ninth Annual Study Tour* and we have a total of nearly 800 Americans who have visited and lived and studied numismatics and Israel's culture for two weeks while standing under the AINA banner.

Now our convention events draw packed-house crowds; our Awards Banquets jam the banquet facilities of one of America's largest hotels. Now our Exhibition Rooms are completely filled with participants from a dozen states and our bourse attracts dealers from coast to coast.

But we have just gotten to the first star. There is a youth and a vigor to the organization. Club after club is led by enthusiastic leaders, organizationally bright and numismatically responsible. Obviously it is from these youthful leaders that AINA's leadership of tomorrow will be coming.

The average age of the Board of Directors is ten years or more younger than

Continued on page 81

מוזיאון קדמן למטבעות KADMAN NUMISMATIC MUSEUM

מוזיאון קדמן למטבעות
KADMAN NUMISMATIC MUSEUM
רחוב הרצל 12, תל אביב 6100
טל. 03-524 11 50

Jerusalem, February 22nd, 1977.

Mr. Joseph Mann
President American Numismatic Association, Inc.
1414 14th St NW
Washington DC 20005
Tel. 202-638-1150

Dear Mr. Mann:

I am pleased to be able to have
numerous coins from Israel and the
Jewish community at the museum of the
New York Numismatic Association.

I am sure that the coins from the
Jewish community will be of great
interest to the members of the
Jewish community and the
Jewish community will be of great
interest to the members of the
Jewish community.

Sincerely,
Amos Gorny

Coin World
The Numismatic Magazine
P.O. Box 150
1011 Landmark Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

The American Numismatic Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 999
Ft. Worth Station
Ft. Worth, Texas 76101, USA

Dear Mr. Mann,
Among the Numismatic
Association

מוזיאון קדמן למטבעות
THE KADMAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY



Tel-Aviv, March 8, 1977.
43 Yehuda Maimon St.

THE FRANKLIN MINE
P.O. Box 8114

Mr. Mann
President
American Numismatic Association
Washington DC 20005

Dear Mr. Mann,
I am sure that the coins from the
Jewish community will be of great
interest to the members of the
Jewish community.

amos press
P.O. Box 150 1011 Landmark Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

BANK OF ISRAEL

AINA HONORED BY FRIENDS

The Bank of Israel has a long time interest in Israel,
its Numismatic and its Collectors, we want to congratulate
Pamela Mann and his fellow officers on their foresight in
founding the American Jewish Numismatic Association. Personally,
my AINA coin in 1972 will be forever a treasured
memory for the following. The next 10 years offer a real challenge
to the AINA coin collectors.

By sponsoring our coins, you have
Israel's image among American
Numismatic and Cultural
Collectors.

Justifying my best experience, I am certain that your
continued efforts to interest new collectors in our
coins will meet with success.

Please accept my best wishes for the future.

Amos Gorny

Jerusalem, February 1977

Mr. Mann
Pamela Mann
and his fellow officers

The "Numismatic press"

The Bank of Israel has a long time interest in Israel,
its Numismatic and its Collectors, we want to congratulate
Pamela Mann and his fellow officers on their foresight in
founding the American Jewish Numismatic Association. Personally,
my AINA coin in 1972 will be forever a treasured
memory for the following. The next 10 years offer a real challenge
to the AINA coin collectors.

THE AMERICAN JEWISH NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 999
Ft. Worth Station
Ft. Worth, Texas 76101, USA



ISRAEL
GOVERNMENT
COINS AND MEDALS
CORPORATION

Mr. Morris Bram, President
American Israel Numismatic Association
91-31 Queens Blvd.
Elmhurst, N.Y. 11373
U.S.A.

Jerusalem, 31st March, 1977.

Dear Morris,

On the occasion of the 10th Anniversary of the American Israel Numismatic Association, it gives me the greatest pleasure to send you, your fellow officers and all your members, the warmest congratulations and best wishes from the Board of Directors of the Israel Government Coins & Medals Corporation, and from myself personally.

From a small beginning, your association has become a major force in publicising and popularising through Israel Coins and Medals the ancient glories and modern achievements of our people.

Through your excellent magazine "The Shekel", your annual study tours of Israel and numerous other activities, you have contributed immeasurably to the amazing growth of interest in Israel's "metallic ambassadors of goodwill".

To a large extent the warmth, understanding and sympathy extended to our country by the people of the United States, both numismatists and others, is due to your continuing endeavours.

We look forward to years of mutually beneficial cooperation and assure you and your members of our heartfelt desire for the successful development of your organization.

"KOL HAKAVOD TO A.I.N.A."

Yours sincerely,

Yitzhak Avni
Director General

Head office: 5 Ahad Ha'am Street, Jerusalem, Israel / Telephone 02-68105-67-8



**ISRAEL
GOVERNMENT
COINS
AND
MEDALS
CORPORATION
LTD.**

April 8th, 1977

LIAISON OFFICE FOR NORTH AMERICA
641 Lexington Ave., 6th Floor
New York, New York 10022
Tel. (212) 486-8500

Mr. Morris Bram, President
American Israel Numismatic Association
91-31 Queens Boulevard
Elmhurst, N.Y. 11373

Dear Morris,

In the beginning there was a dream. There was also determination and hard work. A combined effort of a few volunteers, laying the foundations, building slowly, brick over brick, a tremendous organization. And, it was all done in a mere decade.

Now, it's time to celebrate. It is also time to appreciate and pay compliments. And it is time to pledge to foster and further develop A. I. N. A.

Your dream for the next decade is a modest target: 10,000 members, 100 Israel Numismatic Societies, "The Shekel" issued monthly, one national, plus three regional conventions annually, two study tours every year to Israel - and above all - hundreds of thousands of American and Canadian collectors of Israel coins and medals actively participating in this wonderful world of Israel Numismatics.

I am confident that this dream will also come through. Until then, my best personal wishes.

Cordially yours,

Nahum H. Hacohen
Nahum H. Hacohen, Director
for North America

HEAD OFFICE: 11, KEREN HAYESOD STREET, JERUSALEM, ISRAEL

HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS ROLL IN

I am glad to be able to take the opportunity to congratulate you, your board of directors and all AINA members wherever they are at the occasion of the fifth annual Greater New York Coin Convention.

This convention also marks the tenth anniversary of AINA, the existence of which, its progress in activities such as conventions, meetings, annual study tours to Israel and the issue of the numismatic quarterly, the "Shekel", as well as the consistent growth of membership are in the main your personal achievement and success. AINA has added tremendously to the promotion of ancient, medieval and modern Jewish Numismatics in the U.S. and it is Jewish Numismatics that brings those who occupy themselves with it in close ties with Biblical and modern Israel.

It is therefore a great privilege and pleasure for me to join in with all those who wish you many more years of further success in your AINA activities.

Arie Kindler
Director,
Kadman Numismatic Museum, Tel Aviv

It is with great pleasure that I extend to you and the American Israel Numismatic Association heartiest congratulations on this your tenth anniversary. You have built a strong organization nation-wide which is a healthy and happy one as reflected in your membership.

Your contributions to the entire hobby of numismatics have been numerous and generous. May the next ten years be as productive as these first ten - and they will certainly be - if you continue within the same framework and premise on which you have built from the beginning.

— Virginia Culver
Immediate Past President of ANA;
Numismatic Consultant, The Franklin Mint

Congratulations to A.I.N.A. on its 10th Anniversary. Today's magnificent representation of this Club all over the United States is a phenomenon which awakes the deepest respect of everyone for those who worked to establish this "Club of Good Will."

If A.I.N.A. continues to grow in the next 10 years as it has in the past decade, this truly "international" organization will be one represented in every state, and all numismatists and students will find a source of invaluable information which is truly inspiring. A.I.N.A. members cherish its fellowship, and non-members admire its vigor and constant constructive activities. It has strengthened the bond between two countries, through a common interest in the great historical significance of the medals and coins available through A.I.N.A. May the next ten years be as fruitful as the last, and bring happiness to those who worked so hard to make this fine organization an inspiring reality.

— Eva Adams
(former Director of the U.S. Mint)

* * * *Among the binational numismatic societies of our time I know of none which has fulfilled its principal aim with greater loyalty to its members and with higher efficiency towards American and Israeli numismatists than A.I.N.A.*

Having watched your activities both in the United States and in Israel, we express hereby our deep appreciation for all your achievements and wish you successful continuation of your efforts for the years to come.

Sincerely Yours,
Dr. E. W. Klimowsky, President,
The Israel Numismatic Society, Tel Aviv

TO AINA FROM WORLD HOBBY LEADERS

By promoting our coins, you have done much to project Israel's image among American collectors as a country with a rich historical and cultural heritage and esthetic values.

Judging by past experience, I am certain that your continued efforts to interest new collectors in our coins will meet with success.

— Arnon Gafny

The Governor, Bank of Israel

Since Coin World has had a long time interest in Israel, its Numismatics and its Collectors, we want to congratulate Morris Bram and his fellow officers on their foresight in founding the American Israel Numismatic Association. Personally, my AINA trip to Israel in 1972 will be forever a treasured memory for its fellowship. The next 10 years offer a real challenge!

J. Oliver Amos,

Publisher, COIN WORLD

I could write a book about my thoughts and appreciation of the American Israel Numismatic Association, Inc. and I am going to sound like a Jewish-Irish Mother.

From my vantage point as an observer, reporter and editor of Coin World, I have watched the phenomenal growth of AINA with the same awe, respect and delight one would accord a precocious progeny at the delightful age of ten.

Combine the fellowship, enthusiasm, warmth and studious dedication of the hundreds of AINA members, and one had fulfilment of AINA's prime purpose. AINA membership has deep affection and abiding interest in Israel's coins, tokens and banknotes. They respect these inanimate ambassadors of good will for their great dimension.

— Margo Russell

Editor, COIN WORLD

Heartiest congratulations on AINA'S tenth anniversary! Your organization has blazed new trails in the ongoing saga of Holy Land and Judaic numismatics, in such areas as innovative publishing, The Shekel; the annual Study Tours to Israel; in aiding collectors in obtaining coins and medals of the State of Israel in cooperation with the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation; and in providing a focus and a forum drawing together collectors of every background and interest in a warm fellowship.

I have never seen, in any numismatic organization I know of, the joy and spontaneity that seems to exist in the network of Israel numismatic organizations around the country which are affiliated under the AINA banner; the vitality and freshness of this interest never fails to refresh the visitor, whether the meeting be in New York, Miami or Los Angeles.

David Thomason Alexander,

International Editor, COIN WORLD

It has certainly been a pleasure for us to be associated with the dynamic team of executives and leaders of INS clubs who have made such strides on the American numismatic scene in so few years. It has been our privilege to witness and to report on the activities and the bonding together of enthusiasts for Israel's numismatics in the U.S.A.

Congratulations on your Tenth Anniversary.

— Chet Krause,

Numismatic News, Publisher

Your organization has succeeded beyond anyone's wildest dreams in bringing to the fore the historical heritage recorded by numismatic issues of the Holy Land. Your dream of so few years ago has become a reality and the proof is in the dozens of meetings your clubs hold each month and in the vitality of such special enterprising activities as the annual Study Tours to Israel.

On your Tenth Anniversary it is my pleasure to salute you, confident that you have only reached the first rung of the ladder of life. Go, go, go, AINA.

— Cliff Mishler

Numismatic News, Editor

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN ISRAEL NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

In the summer of 1967, a small, wiry and aggressive Israeli, Joseph Milo, sent to the United States to further the sales of Israel's coins and medals through an ambitious plan to reach Americans through coin dealers and even sponsoring banks in many communities, met with an American collector of Israel's coinage and medals, Morris Bram, a recently retired businessman seeking ways to interest others in the historic importance of Israel's numismatic efforts.

The concept of a national organization, with a network of clubs and with thousands affiliated members-at-large, with programs of education and related numismatic activities was conceived by the two at a meeting held in the midtown New York City Hotel Roosevelt. It was thought that the organization would be international in scope, with collectors in Canada and Israel, possibly even other countries.

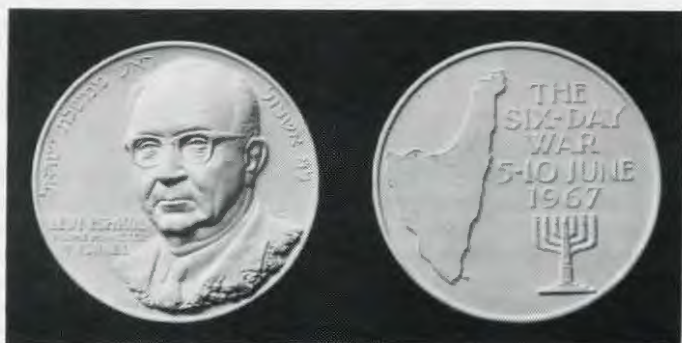
The name: AMERICAN ISRAEL NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION was suggested by Bram and an attorney was engaged to protect the name and to pursue incorporation. The formality of a sponsoring Board of Directors, *Friends of Israel Numismatics* was formed by Bram calling New York area individuals who he thought to be sympathetic to the idea: Maurice Frankenhuis (now deceased); Nathan



AINA logo designed by Nat Sobel, an active early member who is a vital force today.

Goldman (now deceased); Michael Granis; Edward Janis; Julius Schatz, Edward Schuman, Louis Schweiloch, Nat Sobel, Julius Turoff and Max Vlotkoffsky.

Following the appointment of this Board by Mr. Bram, an organizational meeting was held with Yitzhak Avni, the very enthused Director of the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation



AINA's first medal: It honored a Levi Eshkol visit to the U.S. in 1967.



North American Directors for the IGCAM aided AINA growth; l. to r.: N. H. Hacohen, Joe Milo, M. Bram, Rafael Aldor and Ephraim Levy.

from Jerusalem, who saw the many advantages to both Israel and America in the newly born numismatic child. He suggested the need for a Constitution and together with Bram they visited the new members of the Board to suggest a first dramatic action: The honoring of the arrival in the United States of Levi Eshkol on a formal presidential visit to Washington, D.C. by a committee of Israelis and Americans. This committee met and agreed to strike the medal (which AINA now proudly shows as the first AINA medal).

The medal was authorized by this committee and struck by the Medallion Art Co. (now of Conn.) The medals, in silver and bronze were available immediately through AINA; one set, in gold, silver and bronze, numbered "No. One" was presented to the late Mr. Eshkol.

The first business meeting of AINA actually took place on April 28, 1968 at the Sheraton-Atlantic Hotel in New York City. It had taken the efforts of the Avni-Milo-Bram team to launch the organization, primarily by mail efforts and phone calls.

The organization meeting began with an announced membership of over 1,000 - with the distinction of the Membership No. 1000 going to Margo Russell, (now Editor of the *Coin World*).

Max Vlotoffsky was the first Secretary of A.I.N.A. and also Secretary of the I.N.S. of N.Y. in 1968. He was on three A.I.N.A. tours with his wife Esther and has continued a long active role in A.I.N.A. affairs and clubs ever since.

Morris Bram of the Israel Numismatic Society of New York urged as early as

January of 1968 that this New York group affiliate with the budding AINA. The group voted unanimously to do so in January of 1968, prior to the formative April meeting that year. Similar votes were taken in Los Angeles, Cleveland and Miami and all voted to affiliate. The start of the national network of clubs had begun even as the organization was taking shape.

The Shekel is created

It was obvious that the new members would need to know more about the organization and about Israel's numismatics, then only occasionally covered by the existing coin press. It was clear that a magazine would be needed, a scholarly journal to tell the collectors and the members all about the world of Israel numismatics and to report on the progress of AINA's growth, the plan to set up clubs in numerous cities, etc. *The Shekel* was suggested as a name for the new journal by the man who was to pioneer its development as the first editor: Nat Sobel, already so active in the Association that he was AINA Member No. 2.

The coin an actual *shekel* to appear since on every cover of the newly born magazine was from the actual collection of new Board member Michael Granis.

Dr. Aaron Hendin, M.D., father of David Hendin, a *Shekel* columnist today, was one of the first writers for *The Shekel*. He had been collecting Israel and biblical coins for over 25 years.

Sylvia Haffner was early a welcomed addition to the Board of Directors. She was one of the first contributors to *The Shekel*; few people know that she is a

great-great-grand daughter of the famous Joseph Cantor Rosenblatt. Her research in the coins and currency of Israel led to the publication of her book, *The History of Modern Israel's Money* (1967) and the updated edition *Israel's Money and Medals* (1976) published by Arnold H. Kagan.

J. Jay Van Grover was one of the first advertisers in *The Shekel* and he continued to advertise until advertising was dropped. He is a life member and has made hundreds of friends at A.I.N.A. tours and conventions.

The Existing Israel Coin Clubs

Collecting the coins of Israel was by that time not a new idea in the U.S. The State of Israel had been founded in 1948 and long before that in history there had been active collectors of numismatics relating to the history of the Jewish people. Collectors of such material in a number of cities had already formed Israel Coin Clubs. The first of these was the Israel Coin Club of Los Angeles.

The I.N.S. of Cleveland was one of the first of the "new" I.N.S. clubs. Robert Greene was its first President. Starting in February 1968, it grew from seven members to 35. Presently, this club is coordinating the AINA Slide Program distribution.

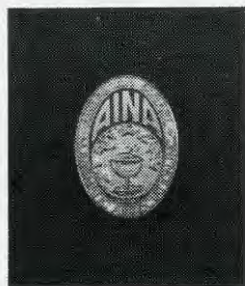


Y. Avni (left) presents Israel medals to the Honorable Abraham D. Beame, Mayor of the City of New York in the early '70s.

The I.N.S. of N.Y. was formally launched on January 9, 1968, meeting in the Sheraton Atlantic Hotel where officers were installed with Morris Bram as president.

The I.N.S. of Washington D.C. was inaugurated on November 24, 1968 at the Smithsonian Institute. Present were many dignitaries of the U.S. government. The I.N.S. of Pennsylvania was inaugurated on February 27, 1969 in Philadelphia. Guest of Honor at the occasion was Eva Adams as well as other local politicians and Israel dignitaries.

Within months, through contacts with active Israel coin collectors—in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Illinois, Texas and Pennsylvania, new clubs were formed or existing study circles were organized



The AINA logo in 1976 became a lapel pin.

into formal INS clubs, all affiliated with the national umbrella organization, A.I.N.A.

There was no office, no staff, no dependable source of income. What income did arrive from memberships could barely sustain the printing and mailing bills for the emerging national magazine. The concept of a financially successful convention or sales of numismatic educational materials to raise funds for the unborn educational programs was yet to develop.

The first step towards making the organization financially stable was to make it the centre for some of the purchases by its far-flung members, many of whom needed a dependable source of the newly minted coins and medals of Israel, most unavailable in the local communities.

If the members had to buy by mail, why not from AINA?

In April 1969, AINA became the North American official distributor of Israel's coins and medals for the members and clubs as well as the sole distributor of certain special medals.



Participants of the very first AINA Study Tour to Israel: 1969.

A further step to weld the organization together and to possibly raise needed funds to conduct AINA activities was the brainchild of Joseph Milo and Morris Bram: the *AINA Study Tours to Israel*. The first tour attracted a small handful of participants; by 1973, 118 AINA members and their family and friends were aboard the El Al flight to Israel to what has become the annual March trek to the Holy Land.

AINA has now conducted *nine* such ventures and about 800 Americans have seen Israel though the assistance of the special tours conducted for this vital group.

No other numismatic organization in the world has been able to generate the interest which could bring members from all across the country to one airport for a 12-hour trip to another part of the world!

A First Coin Convention

The growing organization sought ways to bring together the numerous leaders from across America and the answer was a coin convention where Israeli collectors

could hear learn - see - exhibit - socialize - entertain - visit and share.

The first *AINA Coin Convention* was held in April of 1973. It had taken five years and the formation of clubs in nearly 20 states to assure an organization of a size which could sustain the effort of a national coin convention.

Bram's experience as a convention chairman had been earned in years of numismatic activity with his much-loved Long Island Coin Club and other groups with which he had been affiliated. Top dealers from Europe and across the U.S. were invited by Bram to take tables at the Bourse and from the first convention (1973) and ever since, the Bourse has been a sell-out.

The banquets have been a sell-out. The exhibit areas have been totally filled and the AINA members have had voices in workshops and seminars where club activities and policy planning could be aired.

By 1973, AINA's membership had passed 3500 and the group was the third largest numismatic organization in the U.S. — though only five years old (*The*

ANA, for example, after nearly 100 years has only 30,000 members.)

By inviting the public to the Convention where all manner of coins were on display and sold in the bourse, over 5000 attendees were registered. By 1974's convention, the annual event attracted over 8,000 and the events since have been at that figure, helped by a vast public relations effort in the cooperative *Coin World*, *Numismatic News Weekly*, *World Coins*, *The New York Times* and other media.

Local Expos and Seminars

The local INS clubs and other groups sought ways to interest the members of their communities in Israel's numismatics, etc., and the INS clubs have either formed or participated in HolyLand Expos or HolyLand Seminars at varying times of the year in numerous areas. Four California clubs conduct a May HolyLand Expo annually now; the Great Lakes Seminar has involved activities of many of the AINA members in the Cleveland area. The Houston AINA members have established coin displays at the state fairs and community projects. The Baltimore INS has participated in Community Center projects and this effort has repeated in numerous cities



Stanley Yulish (center) sets a record as a Best-of-Show Winner, two years in a row, 1974, 1975 at the GNYCC. To left: Roger Storm, Chairman; at right, Virginia Culver.

for clubs and AINA members who cannot attend the annual national convention.

In 1976, the first West Coast Convention was held in Los Angeles, an effort to provide all of the benefits of the convention-related activities to the membership and the many other interested collectors of the area.



AINA token designed by Shekel editor George Gilbert.

More AINA Numismatics

In 1973 AINA added to the numismatic world with introduction of the annual AINA token, a token available only to members, struck in Israel and delivered after January 1 to all re-registering members. The membership token obverse was designed by the second (and present) editor of *The Shekel* George Gilbert; the reverse is the reverse of the IGCAM New Year's Token sent to all subscribers to the IGCAM mailing program.

For the Bicentennial Year of 1976, AINA's treasurer, Edward Janis, a member of the founding Board of Directors and long a stalwart in AINA activities designed the AINA Bicentennial Medal, basing it on the wellknown Houdon bust. Citing the famed George Washington Letter to the Jews of America which spoke out against bigotry, the medal was produced in time for the AINA Convention of 1976. It was minted in gold, silver and bronze and, for AINA members, in sets of silver and bronze.

AINA's Education Efforts

From the outset, as stated in its charter in the incorporation in the State of New York, AINA is a non-profit educational organization. Its thrust has been to create a climate where Israel's coinage and medals would serve as "metallic ambassadors of



AINA research efforts led to creation of Israel Chanukah coin of 1976 with American menorah located at the Jewish Museum in N.Y. after national search.

goodwill''. The messengers bringing these ambassadors have been AINA's national offices, then the clubs to their own members friends, and then, and in the major activity, to and through the members-at-large who are the main body of AINA.

But this was not enough. AINA paid to send speakers out across America to assist clubs with programs or to strengthen the potential of formation of AINA clubs. AINA brought from Israel noted scholars like Yaakov Meshorer, Curator of Numismatics at the Israel Museum and arranged for the loan of films from various Israel sources to the local groups.

Finally, AINA developed from within the clubs a system for organization of the best lectures and educational programs into taped slide lectures.

A scholarly reference library has been started.

The First Real Offices

By 1975, the growth of the organization had made it impossible for the 1967 "tem-

porary office." This had been set up in the home of Morris Bram. It had overflowed to all rooms of the apartment where Morris and his wife Lena, (who had become the office manager-bookkeeper-secretary-shipping department for the entire operation) also lived.

AINA opened offices in a modern building out of the din of Manhattan and near the airports of the city. Today a staff of three, augmented as necessary during peak periods handles the thousands of pieces of mail which arrive each month. A computer handles the addressing of labels for all direct mail program and for shipment of *The Shekel*. The publication in 1976 was shifted from four times a year to six times a year to keep pace with the growth of the organization. Early in 1976 the original By-Laws of the group, written long before the association had time to plan how it would really serve the numismatist were updated to provide for all of the services which AINA was developing.



AINA member I. Moskowitz (far right) made history when he donated a basic type set of U.S. gold coins to the Kadman Museum in Tel Aviv.

Club Growth within Communities

1976 had further growth surprises with the addition of the INS of Alaska into the family of INS and related clubs. A.I.N.A. was fast approaching 50 groups, a number of which were in clusters in the great American metropolitan areas:

New York City was now serving its members with the original INS of New York; and in addition, there has been formed during these first years the INS of Long Island, the INS of Brooklyn, the INS of Queens and even the suburbs north were to provide the base for the INS of Westchester (WINS).



AINA brings expert Yaakov Meshorer from Israel to address U.S. audiences at this AINA Luncheon at ANA Convention, N.Y.

Nearby New Jersey, which had early in the growth of AINA registered the INS of New Jersey, added an INS of South New Jersey, an INS of Central Jersey and an I.N.S. of Northern New Jersey.

Pennsylvania which had long enjoyed an active group in the western portion of the state at Pittsburgh was soon to be joined by the INS in the eastern area at Philadelphia.

Three groups in the Miami area now include the original INS of Miami and Los Angeles has burgeoned ahead with two groups in the city and four groups in the outlying counties.

In the areas where there are no Israel-oriented coin clubs, the members-at-large continued to show interest by joining AINA and the steady addition of 50 and 100 new members, month after month, has brought AINA enrollments up to the 5,000-plus mark, varying as some renew, some lose interest, and as some move.

Among some of the very first to join AINA back in the late 1960s were coin collectors in Alaska. One of the special joys of 1976 was the announcement of the formation of the INS of Alaska, a story told in some detail in *The Shekel* a few issues back.



AINA tours introduce many to interest in Israel's numismatics.



AINA starts a forest on a barren slope in Jerusalem beneath the J. F. Kennedy Memorial: 1975.

AINA Plants a Forest

In 1974, the organization took another giant leap forward, a step ahead of any numismatic organization in the world by committing itself to a project conceived and developed within an outstanding Israel Numismatic Society.

The group was the INS of Massachusetts and it was Ed Shade who pioneered, first within his club and then to AINA's Board of Directors a dream which has won wide acceptance among AINA members: To create an *AINA Forest* in Israel.

Working with the *Jewish National Fund*, a site was selected on the barren slopes outside of Jerusalem below the John F. Kennedy Memorial. On the AINA tour of March 1975, the AINA Grove was started with plantings by all tour members and friends.

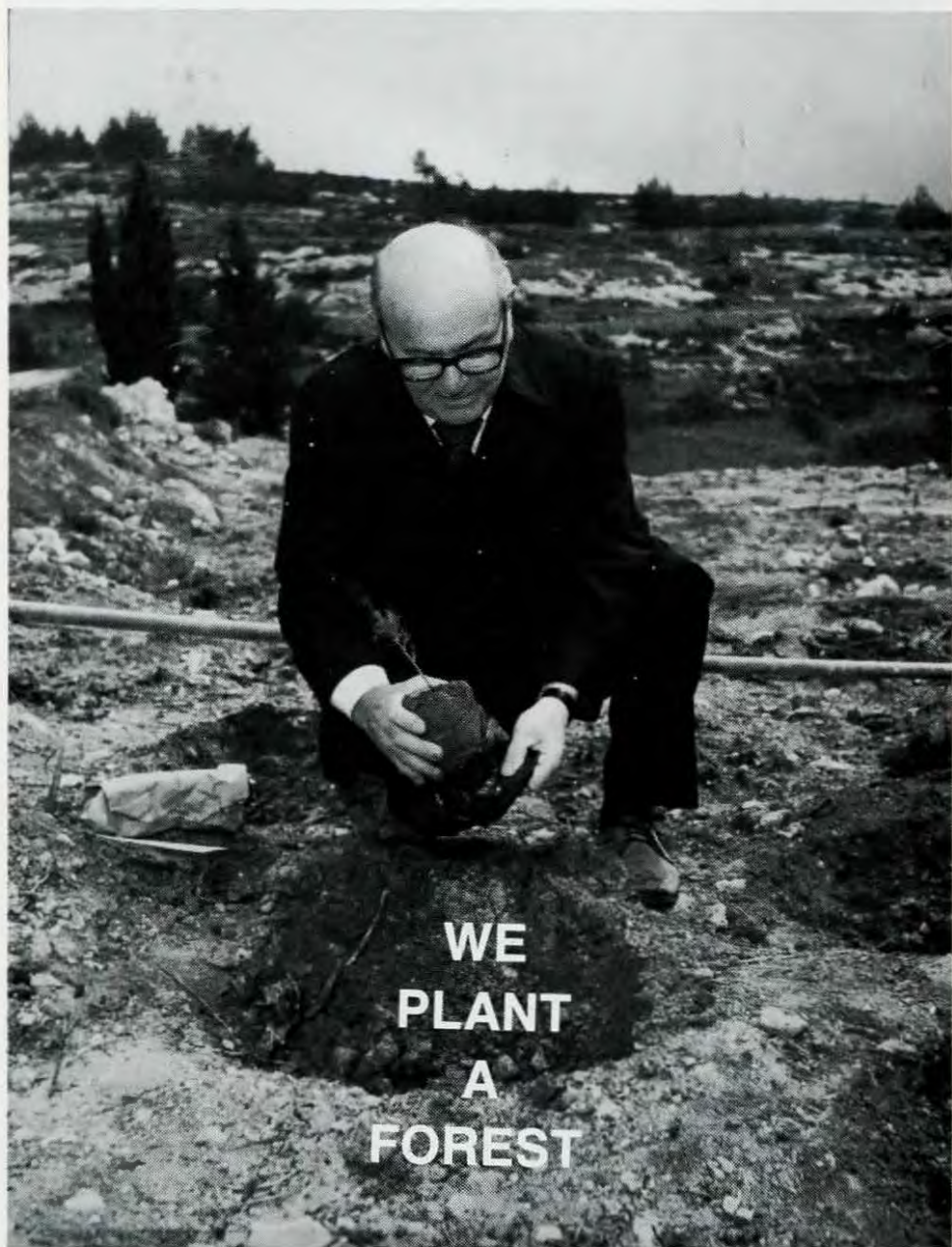
A year of work by the clubs had provided for 800 trees in the initial planting. A gift by A.H. Kagan of \$2500.00 was made to match the first \$2500.00 (approximately 800 trees) to immediately double the planting. Mr. Kagan announced the surprise gift "in honor of his friends Morris Bram and Yitzhak Avni". By the end of the first year, over 2000 trees had been planted.

Additions to the Grove during the visits by the *Eight* and *Ninth Study Tours* have more than doubled the original target for the first 1000 days of the AINA Grove.

A major contribution to the Grove was created after the untimely death of Maurice M. Gould, a West Coast leader in the numismatic world, member of the Board of AINA and an outstanding numismatic journalist. Nate Bromberg, a longtime AINA stalwart and presently treasurer of the INS of San Gabriel Valley sparked the creation of the Maurice M. Gould plantings within the AINA Grove to commemorate the numerous contributions to numismatics and to Israel by this much beloved man.

The Help of Friends

The growth of the entire organization would not have been possible without the endless assistance and cooperation of varied offices of the Government of Israel and especially of the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation. Following the return to Israel of Joseph Milo, there have been three further Directors for North America who have proven their dedication to the AINA idea: Ephraim Levy, now in Israel as an officer of a leading petroleum



A program developed in 1974 by the INS of Massachusetts and led by Ed Shade resulted in the approval by the AINA Board of Directors for a national program of support for the Jewish National Fund effort to make Israel green once again. The first step towards the AINA Grove was taken in 1975 when AINA's No. One Man planted AINA's No. One tree on the slope below the J.F.K. Memorial, a yearly practice in March ever since.

Coin World

THE WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE ENTIRE NUMISMATIC FIELD

A Division of The Sidney Printing & Publishing Co.
Also Publishers of The Sidney Daily News, Gun Week, Linn's Weekly
Stamp News, Numismatic Scrapbook and World Coins
Sidney News Building

Morris, The Miracle Man

Morris Bram, like the hardy, proverbial Biblical figures, has led the American Israel Numismatic Association through five and a half years as its founding president with all the inspiration, zest, steadfastness and wisdom of those ancient leaders.

With his tact, his ability to smooth out the rough places, his rapport with the Israel government officials, his diplomacy that ought to rate him at least a charge d'affaires portfolio, plus an innate good sense of humor and durability, Morris Bram richly deserves the recent honor accorded him at a convention which proved in deed the words of praise heaped upon him.

It was under his skilled leadership that the Greater New York Coin Convention was held recently — the first convention for AINA. Although some of the coins were 2,500 years old, the convention atmosphere sparkled with "Now," another tribute to its chairman.

Morris Bram was named Life Member No. 1 of AINA, and was re-elected to another two-year term as its president. The citation presented to him at the Saturday night banquet praised him as a friend, leader, true American, sincere patriot of Israel. It recorded his devotion, wise judgement and brilliant achievement.

A standing ovation followed the presentation. We are certain Mr. Bram's friends from coast to coast who were not fortunate enough to be present share with enthusiasm his well-deserved honor.

... are being heard. Never have there been so many letters to our lawmakers about numismatic affairs. Never have they been so needed.

company; Rafael Aldor, now a publishing house executive in Israel and today's Nahum H. Hacohen, wellknown to most clubs.

"Morris, the Miracle Man"

When the first AINA Convention was held in 1973, it was a major milestone in the life of the growing organization. At that time, an editorial in *Coin World* (June 20, 1973) paid tribute to the one man whose leadership guided the infant organization to its present vigorous adulthood: Morris Bram, president of the organization and an unpaid officer since the first moments of the dream.

The editorial was headed:
Morris, The Miracle Man
In part it read . . .

"... friend, leader, true American, sincere patriot of Israel . . ."
It spoke of:
"... zest, steadfastness and wisdom . . ."

His reward for all these years of effort is the sturdy national organization which has won so many adherents around the world: AINA.
—George Gilbert, April, 1977

AHL DOUBLE-WINNER IN TENTH ANNIVERSARY

Howard Ahl, a longtime member of the American Israel Numismatic Association was the surprise double winner in the nationwide contest among AINA members for the design of the medal struck for AINA in Israel by the IGCAM. It commemorates the tenth anniversary of the founding of the organization, announced Morris Bram, president of AINA and chairman of the Medal Design Committee.

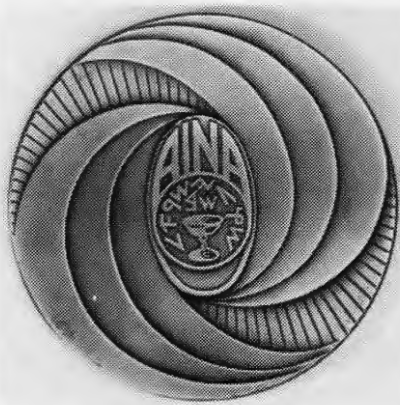
Mr. Ahl's designs were the winners and the runner-ups in the competition, a sweeping victory which totally surprised the committee which had been asked to select from over 100 sketches, drawing, annotated paste-up designs and elegant artist's renditions submitted by AINA members from nearly twenty states around the country.

The competition had been announced to permit entrants to compete for two prizes of \$100.00 for the winning obverse and reverse entries. The prizewinner has also been awarded with a modest quantity of the medals for his own use along with a permanent plastic encased medal to commemorate the event of his award-winning entry.

Ahl's prizewinning designs were first revealed in late December at an AINA Day luncheon in Florida. At the April 1977 Greater New York Coin Convention Ltd. held simultaneously with the AINA convention at the Sheraton New York Hotel, the first medals were purchased and delivered from the limited edition of the medal in silver and a larger quantity in bronze.



The original Ahl Entry Sketches



The minted AINA Tenth Anniversary Medal.

MEDAL DESIGN CONTEST FOR AINA ENTRANTS

Prizewinner Howard Ahl, AINA member No. 1186 is a retiree in Florida. He was a purchasing agent whose hobbies have included wood carving, sculpture and painting. In wood he has carved such items as the scale model of the *U.S. Constitution* and in metal he worked artfully created flowers. He has created numerous paintings but his numismatic efforts which won the awards were his first. Mr. Ahl's name will be known to some as an athlete whose record (unofficial) for the standing broad jump was 11-feet, 5-inches. He is a former member of the All-America Track Team, has been an excellent bowler and he was a winner (in 1950) of the Philip Morris President's Golf Trophy.

The Ahl name has appeared on numerous articles in such publications as *Ameri-*

can Home, *Architectural Record* and *Flower Garden*.

He was a lifelong New Yorker whose early schooling included studies in architecture at Brooklyn's Pratt Institute and Paris Ecole des Beaux Arts.

Committee members included Morris Bram, Chairman; A.H. Kagan, publisher of the well-known book, *Israel's Money and Medals*; George Gilbert, editor of *The Shekel*, journal of AINA; Yitzhak Avni, Director-General of the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation; and Nahum Hacohen, North American Director for the IGCAM.

The medal was struck in 59mm in bronze and in 45mm in silver. All members and clubs will be given the opportunity to order medals for personal collections and for sale within the club.



Howard Ahl (left) receives his prize award from Morris Bram at the December Miami Coin convention during an AINA Day luncheon ceremony.



A Ten Year Retrospective

THE ENCYCLOPEDIA
JUDAICA NUMISMATICA

BY MEL WACKS NLE



What collector of Judaica has not dreamed of a comprehensive catalog covering ancient Biblical coins, Judaic medals, coins and paper money of Palestine and modern Israel, etc?

Surprisingly such a reference work already exists, albeit has been largely taken for granted. It is ten years of *The Shekel*. Indeed, *The Shekel* is not a publication to be read and soon discarded or forgotten. It's articles are both timely and timeless; they form an indispensable compendium of present knowledge in all areas of Holy Land/Judaic numismatics for the past 5000-odd years.

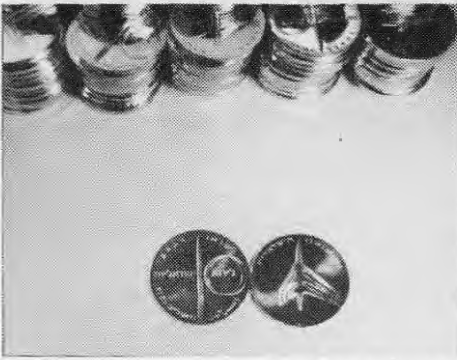
There are two basic ways to learn and enjoy from the many recognized scholars and interested amateurs who want to share their experiences with you in the pages of *The Shekel*. Just sit down with a few past issues or bound copies (which are still available from Volume I to date for only \$12 per two years) and scan the pages. You'll be surprised at the articles that you may have read and forgotten (or just overlooked). Secondly, *The Shekel* can be used as an important research tool . . . for preparing a display, a club talk or an article. To aid such endeavors we are preparing a detailed 10-year index which will enable you to locate articles by subject with great ease. All AINA members will receive this useful guide to the treasurehouse of *The Shekel* later this year.

Even if you consider yourself a specialist in one or more areas of Israel Numismatics, you can find numerous interrelated material in tangential areas that can throw new light on your own specialty. By carefully perusing *The Shekel*, you will quickly find that 5000 years of history and 2500 years of Holy Land numismatics are indelibly intertwined. The premier issue (in the Spring of 1968) is well balanced by subject matter—ancient and modern—and this has been our aim ever since. In a letter to me dated April 8, 1968 Nat Sobel, founding editor wrote prophetically, "We expect the magazine to become a prime source of information on Israel numismatics."

While a few members of the AINA Board of Directors have contributed numerous articles over the last decade, *The Shekel* would not have been a success without the writings submitted primarily by AINA members around the world who covered a broad spectrum of the hobby. (Perhaps it is time for you to consider putting down your ideas on paper and making a valued permanent contribution to the hobby that has brought you so much pleasure. There is no thrill to match seeing your words in print . . . with your byline. There are a number of approaches you might take, and don't think that you must be an "expert" as you can determine from past pages, some of our most interesting articles have been submitted by "amateurs.")



Alan Weinberg, an amateur writer is an occasional contributor with articles on various tokens.



Shekel readers saw how Israel's coins are minted in Jerusalem . . .

Visiting Israel and the Mint

Personal Experience is the simplest material to prepare. *Shekel* readers have been able to visit the land of Israel through the eyes of participants in the annual AINA tour. Nat Sobel wrote about the very first adventure in *Volume 2, No. 2 & 3 (1969)*, but perhaps the young Coopersmith boys best summed the trip up by saying, "*The most out of the trip so far besides coins was learning the history of these lands.*"

In the summer of 1972, *Shekel* readers caught a rare glimpse into the Government Mint at Jerusalem. Here we could share the unique experience of AINA tourists watching the striking of the Aviation 10 Pound Commemorative, as well as all of the current trade coins with photographs by Editor George Gilbert. It must not have



. . . and they saw the dies of coins most already own from recent issues.

been too far from this same spot that Simon Bar Kochba last minted a Jewish coin during the Second Revolt (132-135 C.E.)!

Another shared experience, a little closer to home, was the opening of AINA's national offices, described and pictured in the Fall 1975 *Shekel*. Here we joined Morris Bram and many well-wishers at the joyous Open House "*shortly after furniture had arrived and paint had barely dried.*" All AINA members are still welcome, but it is recommended that you write or call first to make sure that our roving ambassador Morris will be there.



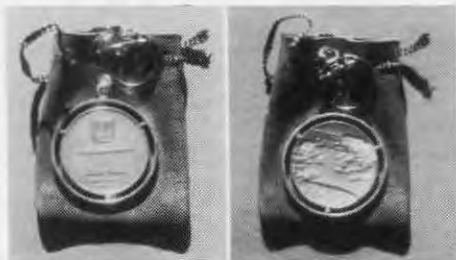
Open House Party at newly opened AINA offices was a 2-page photo feature shared by all AINA members in the pages of the Shekel.

Off-the-Beaten Track

Then there are explorations of off-the-beaten track numismatics. Two such articles appeared in *The Shekel*, Volume IV, No. 2 & 3 (1971): *Was this Spanish General of the 17th Century a Crypto-Jew* by Ya'acov Friedler of the *Jerusalem Post*, and *Judaea Capta—1583 C.E.* by Mel Wacks in his long-running *Judaeen Jottings* column. The first work speculates that Spanish General Abrose Spinola, Marquis de Los Balebases was a Marrano; Wacks discusses an unusual Polish coin of Stephen Bathori with a scene reminiscent of the Roman *Judaea Capta* pieces.

The many branches of Holy Land and Judaic numismatics still have many mysteries, even after centuries of research and speculation. And, with Israel Numismatics more active than ever there is an almost steady stream of *New Discoveries* associated with new Israel issues.

The Spring 1971 *Shekel* was first to reveal that approximately thirty special presentation versions of the Pilgrim's Medal were presented by Premier Golda Meir to the U.S. Secret Service men after her visit here. *One wonders where these extremely valuable pieces are today?*



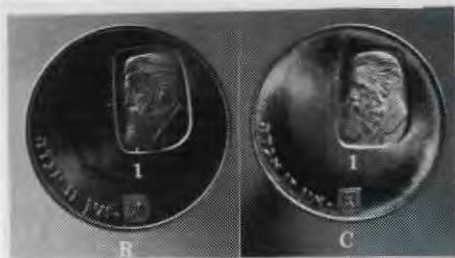
Terra Sancta Medals were awarded by Golda Meir to U.S. Secret Service guards. Shekel readers alone knew of their presentation.

Later, in the Fall *Shekel*, Ed Janis in his familiar *Aleph Beth* column adds another Judaeen city to the list of those which minted coins in ancient times—Apollonia, located about a mile and a quarter west of Herzliya. This coin issuer was not even listed by Kindler or Dr. Klimowsky! But *Shekel* readers found out about it first!

Sylvia Haffner—"Mrs. Israel Numismatics"—reveals the *First and Only Israel Government Medal to Army Personnel in Volume V, No. 2 (Spring 1972,)* and makes another discovery of great interest in the following issue—*Weizmann Gold Coins of 1962 Found Without "Mem"*. Only 10 known—do you have one?

Several other revelations of counterfeits could have saved you the cost of a lifetime of *Shekels*—writing in the Fall, 1973, Herb Kreindler and Mel Wacks exposed *A Deceptive Bar Kochba Coin*, and Ed Janis wrote in the Spring of '75 of *The Insidious Counterfeit Gold Herzl*.

Samuel Lachman of Haifa presents a study of the *Watermarks of the Ottoman Paper Money in Volume VII, No. 1 (1974)*. Also on the subject of paper money, Jack Fisher has been a prolific researcher and writer, presenting much original material in his articles, such as *Palestine Currency Board One Pound Notes* in the same issue.



One of these is a gold counterfeit. Ed Janis told Shekel readers "which was which."

Modern varieties and errors are constantly being exposed by our eagle-eyed AINA members. Allan Greenberg and David Paszamant reveal a *Ben Yehuda Die Variety* in the Fall of 1975, and in the same issue, Dr. Emanuel Rubin shares his *Error 1963 Agora* with us.

If you have made any discovery, please write to The Shekel and share it with your AINA friends.



"Ambassadors of Good Will"

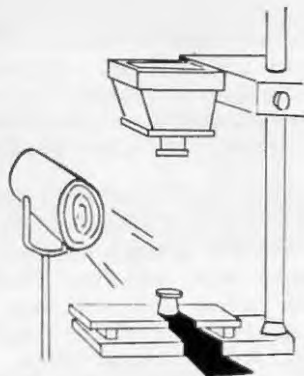
Modern Israel's coins and medals are probably the most beautiful numismatic items being produced anywhere, and this has undoubtedly helped them to achieve their current world-wide popularity. *Shekel* readers have been fortunate in being able to learn the backgrounds of many *Numismatic Designs* and have, on several occasions, met the talented creators of Israel's "Metallic Ambassadors of Good Will," as Yitzhak Avni aptly refers to his country's coinage.

The Birth of a Medal issued by the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation is described by Israel Zedaka in the *Summer 1970 Shekel*. A short time later, in the Spring of '71, *Shekel* readers were treated to *Medallic Portraits of Einstein—An Appreciation* by Mel Wacks, fully illustrated as are all *Shekel* articles. The next issue carried a feature story on *America's Greatest Numismatic Sculptor—Victor D. Brenner* by D. Wayne Johnson.



Special numismatic events as the V. D. Brenner Exhibit are regularly covered for *Shekel* readers.

An important series of articles on *Coin Photography*, which more and more collectors find adds to their enjoyment and enables them to share their hobby with others, was ably presented by editor, George Gilbert starting in the Spring 1970 issue.



Professional results start by using copy stands to support the camera in a fixed position over the coin, leaving the hands free to adjust lighting, determine exposure, trip the shutter. A copy stand costs under \$20.00.

Shekel readers met some of the most prolific (and superb) designers in Israel—Studio Roli (Summer 1972) and the *Shamir Brothers* (Spring 1973). Also pictures in these articles are some beautiful coin and medal designs that were never used! And speaking of unused designs, *Coin World's* talented and hard working David Alexander tells the story of the *Mystery of the Trials of Israel's Coins* in Volume IX, No. 5 (September-October '76).

Added insight into the creative stages of numismatics is offered by Mel Wacks' *The Birth of a Judaic Medal*, which graphically traces a design by sculptress Gerta Wiener from preliminary sketches through the final medal (Winter 1975).

Major Studies

Several *Long Articles* of major importance have been serialized in *The Shekel*. The first such opus was prepared by Dr. Aaron Hendin—*Jewish History as Portrayed in Coins*, starting in the Spring of 1969. Dr. Hendin has made another important contribution to *The Shekel*—his

son, David Hendin—whose column Coins of Ancient Israel is a relatively new *Shekel* attraction. Another monumental work appeared in the Summer 1969 and was continued in several issues—*The Development of the Monetary System in Pre-Exilic Palestine* by Dr. Edwin Mendelsohn.

On a somewhat more modern note, Daniel Friedenberg, Curator of Coins and Medals at the Jewish Museum, presented his encyclopedic knowledge in *Jewish Minters and Engravers in World Currency*, commencing in the Winter, 1970. We have even obtained special permission to reprint virtually the entire sections on numismatics from the outstanding new *Encyclopaedia Judaica*, fully illustrated of course, a series which commenced in the Spring 1973 *Shekel*.



Coin art from the pages of the *Encyclopaedia Judaica* . . . numerous historic articles on numismatic evidences of early Jewish life.

Lastly, I want to recognize the long running column *Gould's Gelt Guide*, written by the loved Maurice Gould for almost the full first decade of AINA. Maury wrote about a number of numismatic topics, and his column is verbal history of the early days of Israel Numismatics. We all miss him.

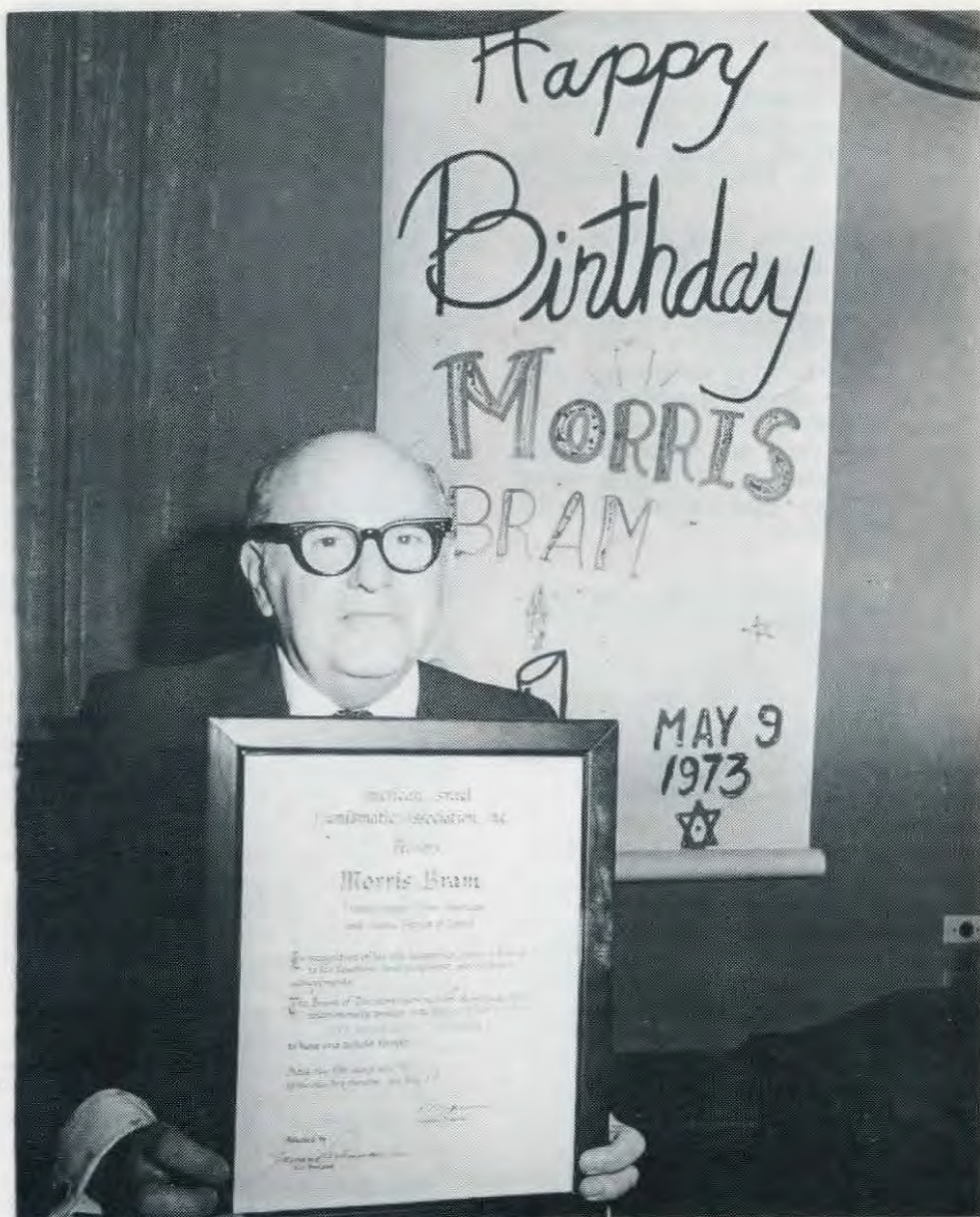


Maury Gould . . . he wrote the *Gould Gelt Guide* for *Shekel* readers.

The Shekel has printed countless book reviews (note especially Dr. Uriel Federbush's relatively new *Book Shelf* column). Collecting guidelines, club news, new issues, and anything else we think you will want to read about are in these pages to help you get the most out of this wonderful hobby.

A well deserved THANK YOU is in order for every single past contributor to our *Shekel*, whether it has been a few lines of club news or a major research article. You have made the *Shekel* the attractive, entertaining and respected journal that it is today. And THANK YOU too, to all of you who will find your bylines in the next ten years of *The Shekel*.

Finally, THANK YOU to all of our valued AINA members who read and enjoy the *Shekel*; we will always appreciate your comments and suggestions.



Surprise plaque honors Bram at 1973 Convention, fully reported in the Shekel for AINA members everywhere.

The AINA Grove

Thousands of AINA members who had contributed were spiritually with Morris and his entourage through the pages of the Summer 1975 *Shekel* when the AINA

Grove was established "in a moving ceremony conducted at the site on the slope below the Kennedy Memorial on the outskirts of Jerusalem," when nearly 2000 trees were planted. And more recently (July-August 1976), Donna Sims

and Sylvia Krasner movingly described their first AINA trip (and AINA's eighth!). The warm feelings experienced materialized into "many friendships made and some hopefully for many years to come," by Donna, and "warm camaraderie," by Sylvia.

Won't you share your Israel numismatic happenings on trips, local Israel Numismatic Society meetings, etc. with us in the future?

Israeli Contributors and U.S. Scholars

Let us now scan the spectrum to *Scholarly Articles*. But I will first note that not all scholarly articles are written by died-in-the-wool scholars; many hobbyists have made important discoveries that the "pros" had overlooked! I myself studied engineering, and only became interested in ancient Jewish history and its numismatics just 12 years ago.

We have had the good fortune to read features by Dr. Yaakov Meshorer, Curator of the Archaeological Museums in Israel as well as the Israel Museum; Arie Kindler, Curator of the Kadman Numismatic Museum, and other Israeli numismatists including Eli Semmelman and occasional

Shekel contributors Samuel Lachman, Dov Genachowski and others.

In the second issue of *The Shekel*, Meshorer revealed the discovery of original ancient coin molds, possibly from the 2000 year old mint of King Herod the Great. *Shekel No. 4* features an interesting article by AINA stalwart Ed Janis on the often misunderstood "FISCI IVDAICI CALVMNIA SVBLATA" coin of the Roman Emperor Nerva (97 C.E.) Ed translates the Latin inscriptions as "The insult of the Jewish Tax is removed," and indicates that the distasteful tax was not abolished but rather that collection methods were reformed.

Minting Techniques Explained

Stan Lechner contributed only a single article, describing the *Story of Minting in Volume I, No. 3* (1968); he contrasts the crude ancient method for striking coins one at a time with modern mass production. A more detailed description of the *Production of Coins in the Ancient World* is presented by Meshorer in the Fall 1971 issue.

Israel Numismatics does not only mean Jewish numismatics—it also means Christian, Arab, Crusader coinage and the like. Jeremy Newman writes of the *Ancient Money Changers*, in *Volume II, No. 1* whereas "Jesus entered the Temple of God and drove out all who sold and bought in the Temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers" (Matthew 21:12, 13).

Newman indicates that the money changers were serving a legitimate purpose enabling those people to exchange their foreign money for the Half Shekels and Shekels of Tyre as was required by Jewish law.

An important article by Ed Janis (*Volume V, No. 2*) gives step by step instructions for dating the silver tetradrachms of Alexander the Great struck in Akko, circa 332-304 BC. Another major reference is Robert Schonwalter's fascinating article describing the confrontation of Christian and Arab inscriptions on the *Crusader Bezants*, c. 1250 C.E. in *Shekel, Volume IV, No. 1*. the Christian minters who were producing coins with Arab legends were excommunicated!



Coin hoards located in archaeological digs are regularly reported by the *Shekel's* many Israeli correspondents.

מטבעות מספרות על ארץ-ישראל

בנק לאומי
המטבעות החדשים

שי לקוראי **השקל**



מטבעות 10 שקלים חדשים, 1973. עיצוב: יצחק שניידר.



מטבעות 10 שקלים חדשים, 1973. עיצוב: יצחק שניידר.



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Shekel readers were among the few Americans to see this BANK LEUMI poster in the issue of Summer, 1973 (Vol. VI, No. 2). The headline (top) "Coins tell about the Land of Israel."



ISRAEL'S NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM IN HAIFA

One of the World's Finest Display of Ships and Parts of Ships on Ancient Coins

Excerpted from the Numismatic Catalogue, Ships and Parts of Ships on Ancient Coins, published by the National Maritime Museum Foundation, Haifa, Israel. Now available from AINA at \$15.00.

The National Maritime Museum in Haifa is an institution for research of maritime history, ship building and navigation in the Mediterranean Basin, the Red Sea, the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean, with particular reference to the maritime history of Israel.

The Museum serves as research and study centre for institutions, students, schools and sailors. The Undersea Exploration Society of Israel is affiliated to the Museum. It offers numismatists a special centre for study of maritime-related coins.

The Museum is a Municipal Institution, founded in 1951 by its Director Arie L. Ben-Eli. The building was erected with the aid of the Municipality of Haifa, the Jack and Michael Morrison Foundation, London, and the National Maritime Museum Foundation, headed by Mr. Yaacov Salomon.

The National Maritime Museum Haifa, which in 1975 celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary, exhibits in its superb building five thousand years of history of sea-faring along the coasts of the Mediterranean, the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean. Among its items are models of ancient ships, rare collections of coins, medals, charts and scientific instruments.

Haifa, Israel's third largest city and capital of the north, lies on the slopes of Mount Carmel, overlooking its blue-green bay; a marvellous combination of sea and mountain which has made it an outstanding tourist site in the Middle East.

Its active port had made Haifa the largest maritime centre in the country.

Fish, Deities and Monsters

The coins displayed at the Museum are unique, illustrating the sea and matters associated with it: warships, merchantmen, parts of ships, anchors, harbours, fish, dolphins, shells, as well as sea deities and monsters.

REPRESENTATIVE MARITIME COINS IN THE MUSEUM



AGRIPPA II, 56 — ca. 100 C.E.

Bronze, 16 mm. mint of Caesarea.

Obverse: Head of Domitian at right, laureate.

Inscription:

ΔOMITIANOC KAICAP ΓEMP . . .

Reverse: Galley with oars and aphlaston to left.

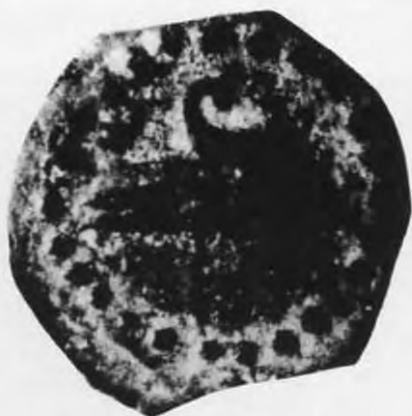
No ram at prow.

Inscription: ETO//OBAA//TPIIII

(Year 19 of Agrippa II = 75 A.D.)

King Agrippa II ruled over widespread areas of Palestine, and there are maritime symbols on several of his coins, but there is no special emphasis of these symbols on the coins. A coin with an anchor is known from the beginning of his reign, and a ship appears on his coins under the names of Titus and Domitianus, perhaps to symbolize his dependence and ties with the Romans from whom he derived his power, for the connection with Rome was by way of the sea.

The mint of this coin is Caesarea, the biggest harbour of Palestine at that period. This is a merchant ship since it lacks the ram.



HEROD ARCHELAOS, 4 B.C. — 6. C.E.

Bronze prutah, 14 mm. mint of Jerusalem.

Obverse: Prow of galley to left, with three pointed ram. In field inscription: HPW

Reverse: Inscription surrounded by a Wreath: EON



THE TENTH ROMAN LEGION

Bronze, 20 mm.

Countermark with the design of a warship with oars, ram and perhaps a legion standard. This countermark is minted on a coin of Titus from the "Judaea Capta" series which was minted at Caesarea between the years 70—81 A.D., and was probably made at the end of the first century A.D. The tenth Roman legion has several emblems, like the wild boar, the dolphin and the ship. These maritime symbols were adopted by the legion because of its success in crossing a difficult strait — Fretum, after which the tenth Roman legion was named (Fretensis).

The coin collection was started twenty-four years ago, by Arie L. Ben-Eli. The search for sources illustrating ancient ships yielded wall drawings in burial chambers and caves, funeral and votive ship models and designs on pottery and ancient coins. Hundreds of these coins contain a wealth of information about ships, their design and construction, sails and oars. They likewise portray illustrations of ships in great detail.

The collection has grown from a small number of coins accidentally discovered in ancient ruins along the coast to over one thousand specimens showing illustrations of ships and other maritime motifs.

All knowledge of ancient shipping has been greatly augmented by this coin collection which has also served as an important factor in enabling reconstruction on the models of ancient ships at the Museum. The numismatic department of the Museum also contains a collection of maritime medals from the sixteenth century up to World War II.

COINS: THEIR ANCIENT ROLE

Although in the beginning coins were used only as a convenient means of payment which came to replace the old systems of commerce (dealing with the aid of silver or gold bars, scales and a system of weights) it soon became apparent to the coin minters that it is possible to use these pieces of metal as a background for the striking of important symbols having a political, economic or religious nature. States and city-states which began to mint their coins in ever increasing quantities, during the sixth, fifth and fourth centuries B.C., saw in the coins a primary means of strengthening their economic power, and so that people should be able to recognize the origin of the coins, their value and importance, they minted upon them symbols and characteristic inscriptions to facilitate their identification by the users.

Every minting authority attempted to mint the symbols characteristic of the minting place from a geographic or ethnologic point of view. We see this expressed in the fact that mints whose importance was primarily maritime, like major harbour sites, described in their coins various maritime motifs, especially ships and parts of ships, with the aid of



AINA tour groups visits National Maritime Museum.

which the shape and equipment of ancient ships can be reconstructed with relative accuracy.

In the Roman era the minting of coins was so developed that in many cases coins were struck more for advertising purposes than for economic needs, and the number of types increased and reached a record number; every day new types and inscriptions were devised which were meant to inform the citizens about all matters of life. It can be said that during this period coins were used as a means of communication for the transfer of information of all types to such an extent that they were turned into means of advertising. Because of this fact, ancient coins have become historical documents of primary importance for the historian, for they transmitted continuous information to the citizens of the ancient world.

For us, of course, the maritime motifs on ancient coins are most important, and indeed models and various descriptions from the world of seafaring were depicted on coins whenever it was desired to describe important sea voyages, military or economic, or even simpler events like pleasure trips and visits of rulers, the building of bridges over rivers, food supply by sea or even the transportation of circus animals to Rome by ship . . .

With the aid of these descriptions we become acquainted with details not only

about important historical events connected with the sea, but we are also able to reconstruct all the details concerning this wondrous world, writes Yaacov Meshorer in the Introduction to the Museum's Numismatic Catalogue.

MARITIME HISTORY ON JEWISH COINS

By Robert R. Stieglitz

The coins of the Hasmonaeen and Herodian dynasties are an important source for the historical study of the Second Temple period, and the maritime motifs appearing on these coins offer us a fascinating glimpse into the nautical aspects and interests of the Judaeen state.

During the era of Jewish independence in the period of the Second Temple, after the Hasmonaeen revolt, the maritime policy of the Maccabees is quite apparent. They spared no effort to expand towards the Mediterranean coast and take possession of its harbour. The first harbour which came under their permanent control was Jaffa, in the year 142 B.C.: "With all his other stories, he (Simon) took Joppa for a port and made it a way of access to the islands of the sea." (I Maccabees 14:5).

Afterwards, the Hasmonaeans gained control over the harbour of Ashdod and Apollonia (106 B.C.). The invasion of Ptolemy Lathyrus, King of Cyprus, with a large fleet and some 30,000 men through the coastal town of Shikmonah emphasized the great danger inherent in undefended coasts and prompted Alexander Jannaeus (103-76 B.C.) to complete the conquest of the coasts. During this reign the Hasmonaeen domination of the coast reached its peak: from Rinocolura (El-Arish) in the south to the Carmel in the north, in spite of the fact that a majority of the coastal population was composed of gentiles. The interest of the Maccabees and their successors in shipping is reflected in their coins which bear various maritime motifs.

King Herod (37-4 B.C.) achieved a notable success in the development of seafaring in Palestine, when he built the harbour of Caesarea — which was, according to the historian Flavius Josephus, greater than that of Piraeus, the harbour of



*AELIA CAPITOLINA, Hadrian 117-138 C.E.
Bronze, 12 mm, mint of Aelia Capitolina (Jerusalem).*

*Obverse: Head of Hadrian to right, laureate.
Inscription: HADR...*

*Reverse: Galley to right, with ram, aphlaston and oars. In field, inscription: CA / C
C (OLONIA) A (ELIA) C (APITOLINA)*

The appearance of ships on the coins of Aelia Capitolina is connected to the Tenth Roman legion which was stationed there. For hundreds of years this legion was encamped in Jerusalem and the symbols of the Tenth Legion appear on numerous coins of Aelia Capitolina — evidence of the significant impact of this legion of the city.

Athens. Through this harbour, the Kingdom of Judaea was linked to the expanses of the Roman Empire. A squadron of Herod's warships was also dispatched to a combat mission in the Black Sea to aid the Roman admiral Mark Agrippa.

Jewish maritime activity did not cease even after Judaea lost its political independence and was under the rule of Roman governors. At the outbreak of the first rebellion against the Romans in 66 A.D. the Jewish fleet was based at Jaffa, and warships of the Jews were attacking the Roman grain-carriers which were ferrying supplies to the Syro-Palestinian harbour, and to Rome. These actions of the Jewish fleet disrupted the regular movement of the grain fleet severely.

The Romans decided to put an end to these "piratical" activities of the Jews, and the Roman general Vespasian was sent to conquer Jaffa again.

Just as Vespasian attacked Jaffa a violent storm called by the sailors "The Black North Wind" struck the anchored ships of the Jewish fleet outside the harbour. Flavius Josephus described the destruction of the fleet as follows:

"There were agonizing shrieks when the vessels collided; when they broke up the noise was deafening, of the men on board many were submerged by the waves and drowned, many lost their lives entangled, in the wreckage, while some, thinking it less painful to die by the sword, cheated the sea by killing themselves. But most of them were cast up by the waves and dashed to pieces against the cliffs, so that a wide stretch of sea was stained with their blood and the beach was covered with corpses; for the Romans set upon those who were cast up on the shore and destroyed them. The number of bodies washed up was 4,200. The Romans captured the town without any fighting and demolished it". (The Jewish War 3.9: 2-3).

In 67 A.D. the Jewish fleet, which had been so active in the waters of the Eastern Mediterranean was destroyed. The great importance attached to this event by the Romans themselves is indicated by the fact that both Emperor Vespasian (69-79 A.D.) and his two sons Titus (79-81) and Domitian (81-96) struck coins to commemorate the battle. The coins bore the inscription **VICTORIA NAVALIS** "Naval Victory"

The maritime motifs on the Jewish coins, as well as similar motifs on other artifacts, and the ship drawings, in Jewish tombs, illustrate the prominence given to maritime affairs. It is evident that the revival of the independent enterprise, both commercial and military, had a great impact on the Jewish communities both inside and outside of Judaea.



ASCALON. 77 C.E.

Bronze, 15 mm.

Obverse: Head of Tyche to right.

Reverse: Galley sailing right, with ram and oars. Above deck kind of hat. Inscription and date:

HYP = "year 180" = A.D.

AE



ASCALON, 95 C.E.

Bronze, 13 mm.

Obverse: Head of Tyche to right. Inscription: AEK

Reverse: Galley to Right, stylized. Above, date: HYP = 198 = 95 A.D.

The ship on this coin is executed in a very schematic and stylized fashion, and is more similar to a decorative design on the subject of "the ship". This schematic style is typical of "pseudo-autonomic" coins of Ascalon from the Roman period.



Norman and Julia Seiden (N.Y.) at the pre-Christian ruins in Ashkelon.

AMERICAN ISRAEL NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Ninth Annual Study Tour of Israel

MARCH 7-21, 1977

*“ . . . most successful in
our history . . . ” —BRAM*

ISRAEL STUDY TOUR MEETS ENTEBBE RAID HERO AS ONE OF MANY EXCITING HIGHLIGHTS OF TWO WEEK STAY

Tel Aviv—A thrilled audience listened in rapt attention as an actual participant in the heroic raid on the Entebbe Airport in Uganda which released over 100 hostages on July 4, 1976 recounted the minute-by-minute account of the unprecedented Israeli military action. The military hero was Major Ephraim Sneh, one of the heads of the medical team of the commando group and the audience was nearly 100 Americans and their Israeli guests representing the officials and leaders of Israel's numismatic circles.

The occasion was the first formal banquet honoring the arrival in Israel of the *Ninth Annual Study Tour* of Israel sponsored by the American Israel Numismatic Association, led by the organization's president Morris Bram, New York and his wife, Lena. Nearly 100 members of AINA, their families and guests made up the group which departed from the John F. Kennedy Airport in New York City on March 7, 1977 for a two-week tour of the major numismatic, archaeological and cultural sites in the Holy Land.



Major Ephraim Sneh gets a standing ovation following his personal report on the events at Entebbe Airport. Bottom: Sneh signs autographs for tour members—on dinner menus, Israeli 5-pound notes and U.S. \$1.00 bills.

SIDELIGHTS AND HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NINTH STUDY TOUR



AINA's sound camera at the Yad Mordecai recreated 1948 battlefield.

* * *

Tour members were certain after the first banquet when they met an Entebbe hero that no other speech of the trip would or could compare. They hadn't counted on 80-year David Hacohen, a onetime Intelligence Officer of the Haganah, a former member of the Knesset and the past president of Israel's largest construction company. He wowed them at the Haifa Dan Carmel banquet, say those present.

* * *

The little guy down in front almost everywhere was AINA's own Nat Sobel, the eager-beaver with the tape recorder getting it all down. Some say he was also first one out the door and among the last to get back aboard the bus. Nat can't get enough of the Israel - and he stayed on a further week to prove it.

* * *

Surprise gifts to Tour participants included: an embedded Entebbe medal; a dinner medal in Eilat; a dinner medal in Haifa; the traditional Tour medal (a miniature of the 10th Anniversary medal, numbered, in bronze); a Chagall print from numismatic publisher Michael Daniel of Tel Aviv; a ceramic ashtray compliments of Isram Travel with a detailed ancient coin history on the back; and certificates from Santa Katarina Monastery and the Jerusalem Pilgrim certificate signed by Mayor Teddy Kollek; and a cocktail party on the second evening in Tel Aviv hosted by the Bank Hapoolim. The total value of the "loot" is astonishingly HIGH.

"It was the most ambitious and by far the most successful tour in our history. It was an unqualified numismatic success with many of our members meeting and exchanging ideas and numismatic mementoes with their Israeli counterparts and friends. It was a fantastic tour success with this group in two buses plus passenger planes of Israel's inland airline Arkia taking the group's 96 participants to all of Israel's major cities of Tel Aviv, Haifa and Jerusalem plus the dozens of historic sites. Such fabled Biblical areas as the Mount of Olives outside Jerusalem, Jericho by the Dead Sea and even the Santa Katarina Monastery on the slopes of Mount Sinai were included in the visit", said Mr. Bram.

The first moments of actual touring on Tuesday, March 8 were a tour through downtown Tel Aviv and to the near suburb of Ramat Gan where a complex of museums is located. The group had a special meeting with Mr. Arie Kindler, Curator and Director of the Kadman Numismatic Museum in the museum's library and meeting room.

The thrilled audience saw presentations of American numismatic items from a number of clubs affiliated with the American Israel Numismatic Association. On behalf of AINA, Mr. Bram made a presentation of \$1,000 to further the research efforts of the Museum.

The tour members heard a presentation on the role of ancient coins as clues to the civilizations of the past by Mr. Kindler before taking a tour of the rooms where thousands of ancient and modern coins are on display.

Lunch in Jaffa

Following a lunch in ancient Jaffa, the tour visited a renewed area which had at one time been a medieval fortress protecting Jaffa from the sea attack from the nearby Mediterranean coast. This renewed area is now a center for arts, crafts and antique shops along with jewelry and clothing boutiques set in the streets of the all-stone fortress.

The tour proceeded south to nearby Rishon Le Zion and Rehoboth for tours at the Carmel Winery and in the serene surroundings of the Weizmann Institute where scientific research in health,



Departure time: J. F. K. Airport, March 7, 1977

medicine and nuclear energy is in progress.

A banquet that evening, the first of a number of dinner meetings followed by major numismatic and cultural-historical presentations was held in the King David Room of the Dan Hotel, headquarters for the AINA group during the first days in Israel. Welcoming addresses by Morris Bram and by Yitzhak Avni, Director General of the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation were soon completed to permit a thorough discussion of the events at the Entebbe Airport by Major Ephraim Sneh.

Questions from the audience showed keen interest in the actual procedures followed by the commandos which so successfully guarded the hostages during the attack and rescue mission. Following a standing ovation by the awed group, dozens of well-wishers and collectors of signatures of famed individuals sought the signature of the modest Israel Army major.

The Second Day

The tour's second day was the memorable visit to Israel's major new seaport on the southern coast of the country: Ashdod. The group was permitted access to an official Absorption Center, a hotel and school conducted on behalf of newly arriving immigrants.

In a modern building resembling a college dormitory, a recent immigrant from Russia explained the circumstances surrounding his own five year effort to begin a new life in the State of Israel. A 32-year old ship engineer who had been a Leningrad shipyard employe, he changed his job

SIDELIGHTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

A thrill for most trip goers: meeting Jerusalem's famous mayor, Teddy Kollek at the cocktail party at the King David Hotel. Kollek told them something most did not know: he had actually been the first Director of the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation (which is evidently a good training ground for a top political figure).

Nearly everyone took pictures with still or movie cameras. Ed Janis and George Gilbert were on a special surprise AINA project: The effort to create a sound movie of the entire trip. Say the two: this will be an X-rated feature if it comes out. (The "X" will stand for "ten" since it took ten-times the effort either one of them had bargained for!)

Everyone brought swim trunks etc. but few actually took them out of the baggage. Larry Wohl of Westchester, Jack Garfield of No. Miami Beach and Norman Seiden of New York were among the hardy ones who actually bathed in the 28% salty Dead Sea. Said Norman: "I had to be able to experience it once in my life"

A complete surprise to many: The trip up onto the Golan Heights and to the battlefield town of Kuneitra. It had not been scheduled as the time did not seem to be available.

Experienced tour guides Eliezer Ayalon and Tsion Mizrahi made the time available - by pushing the drivers. Go - go - go.

to odd jobs as ticket-taking and ushering at the Leningrad Ballet Theatre in order to remove the possibility of any delay in clearance for his departure.

At the same time, informal meetings with other residents of the Absorption Center included those with an elderly Russian woman who within 90 days was cleared for emigration from Kiev to Israel with her son, daughter-in-law and children. The Americans spoke to the Rus-



Top: Nat Sobel (right) makes a presentation of medals from the INS of New York to A. Kindler (center) of the Kadman Museum. Bottom: view of Jaffa harbor from the bus on the first tour day.

sians who had some English, some German, some Yiddish and Russian-speaking members of the AINA group to simplify communications in the informal meetings.

The trip further south was redolent with the aroma of oranges after the group made a quick visit to the Ashdod Fruit Plant where crates of oranges were opened for AINA tour members to enjoy samples of the late crop of the world-famed Jaffa oranges.

Lunch was enjoyed in a typical Israeli roadside restaurant where Israel-style *fal-lafel* (a chick-peas and salad sandwich on pitta, a pouch-shaped Arab flat bread) and American style pizza slices vied for attention with Russian style *blini* and soups.

The tour of Ashkelon, the Biblical city which was the home of Goliath, the giant slain by David on the hillsides beyond the

city, featured a stroll through one of Israel's many national preserves, the Ashkelon ruins of the Hellenic period, pre-Christian, and center for columns, statuary and other stone remnants. Walls dating to the Crusader period, built in part with the marble columns of past civilizations lie at the edge of the preserved area.

The city of Ashkelon, home today for many emigrants from South Africa has numerous private villas in addition to streets of modern apartment houses and charming open-air shopping markets. Americans mixed with hundreds of Arab children on Ashkelon beaches as the stop by the AINA buses coincided with the stop by buses loaded with the entire elementary school of Arab children from the West Bank, many seeing the sea for the first time in their lives, stated accompanying

Arab teachers who were cool but friendly to the visiting Americans.

A reception in the King Solomon Room was hosted for the entire AINA group by the Bank Hapaolim. Following dinner, Morris Bram made presentations of plaques to the two tour guides who had been serving AINA Study Tours for many of the nine years of the tour's history.

George Gilbert, editor of *The Shekel* and a member of the AINA Board of Directors, made a brief speech on the contributions to the organization's six times a year journal by many present on the tour and he asked for support for one of the recent AINA projects: development of the AINA Forest on the slopes outside Jerusalem near the Kennedy Memorial.

Mr. Morris Bram presented each member of the audience with a plastic embedded 59mm bronze *Operation Jonathan* Medal, a personally identified medal commemorating the individual's participation on the Ninth Study Tour to Israel. The medal was particularly well received since only the evening before the tour members had witnessed presentation of the identical gift (in silver) of the same medal to Major Ephraim Sneh, following his moving presentation at the first night's banquet.

By Arkia to Eilat

On the following day, the group flew by Arkia down to the southern port of Israel, Eilat, the sea access to the Red Sea. The bus tours included a visit to the waterfront, underwater viewing of the sea creatures and on land viewing of the area where the fabled King Solomon's mines is located.

In the evening, AINA tour members met with local coin collectors, eager to meet with Americans who shared their interest in Israel's present and past numismatic life.

The *Ninth Study Tour to Israel* was the first to visit the famed Mount Sinai or the southernmost point in Israel, Sharm-el-Shekh on the tropical coast of the Red Sea.

The return flight north took the group to Israel's northernmost frontier on Lebanon, with visits to nearby Acca following stays in the Dan Hotel overlooking the majestic Haifa harbor. At a dinner meeting with Haifa coin collectors and dealers, they met



Tour members received personalized operation Jonathan medal as memento of Major Sneh's banquet speech.

with such local numismatic celebrities as Eli Semmelman, a president of the local coin group and a frequent contributor to *The Shekel*.

From Haifa, the group visited the wellknown mountainside town of Safed and visited the ancient synagogue of the scholarly Josef Karo. For one night the tour lived on a Kibbutz in the Upper Galilee in the guest house at the kibbutz near Ginossar.

The trip south towards the high point of the total tour was marked with the visit to Megiddo, a tel opened in past years to reveal civilizations dating back to King Solomon and earlier. Actual caverns cut into the rock to have access to water were entered by the tour members. The site was already known to many of the participants in the tour who had read the Michener novel, *The Source* which traces many of the periods influenced by inhabitants of the Jezreel Valley protected by the fortress atop Megiddo in early times.

A tour through the Arab area known as the West Bank brought the group to their Jerusalem headquarters at the King David Hotel.



Top, left: Boarding the Arkia airliner to Eilat. Top, right: outdoor dining midday in Israel's southernmost area.

Row Two, left: AINA buses well marked for Israelis to see. Right: Ed Janis speaks on coins of the period outdoors to a group at the Ashkelon ruins of Hellenistic times.

Row Three, left: At the doorway to the Ashdod Absorption center where AINA members met recent Russian immigrants. Right: Y. Avni, David Hacohen and Stanley Yulish at the Dan Carmel reception.

Bottom left: A Russian immigrant tells of his struggle to join his family in Israel. Right: Y. Avni and M. Bram at the final banquet in Jerusalem.

Tour Photos by George Gilbert and Larry Wohl



Guides Elie Ayalon and Tsion Mizrachi were honored for years of help to AINA by Morris Bram.

Following a day of touring of Bethlehem and the historic points of early Judaism and Christianity which lie in the Old City, the group retired to the hotel to ready itself for the day-long Friday visit to the scenes of early civilizations in the area of the Dead Sea. After a brief visit to Jericho, the bus proceeded along the Dead Sea shoreline to the mountain where Masada, the Herodian fortress overlooking the Dead Sea sits in the blazing sun.

A cable car ride took the group to the actual buildings and streets within the castle area. They learned the story of the besieged Zealot defenders who committed suicide en masse rather than surrender to the oncoming slavery under the Romans who built a mountain with slave labor to reach the well-protected mountain top fortress in the period just after Christ.

At a farewell dinner on Saturday evening, those present were awarded the AINA



Tour members in Jerusalem at the Western Wall.

Ninth Study Tour Medal, the annual presentation piece created each year in a limited edition to mark the visit of the group to the Holy Land.

A number of those present indicated that they would be renewing their reservations for the planned March 1978 visit sponsored by AINA, which, stated Mr. Bram, will be known as the "Ten in Thirty" trip, the Tenth Study Tour making its visit during the celebration of Israel's thirtieth year as a state (1948-1978).

Final day activities included the ceremonies connected with the actual planting

of hundreds of trees as additions to the growing AINA Forest in the hills outside Jerusalem. A visit to the Israel Museum and actual discussions with Dr. Ya'acov Meshorer brought the group into contact with one of the world's most knowledgeable experts on ancient Jewish coinage.

The singing, cheering, crying group of tired but thrilled tour members joined families and made home-bound connections following their return by El Al to New York on March 21 as the final moments of the *Ninth Study Tour to Israel* sped into history.



Famed 2000-year aqueduct ruins near Caesarea.

TOUR MEMBERS WROTE AFTER ARRIVAL HOME

Dear Morris,

In our haste of procuring baggage, going through "customs," & dashing for our next flight, Paul and I didn't have an opportunity to express our appreciation to you for your kind assistance during our A.I.N.A. tour.

It was most enjoyable being part of the tour.

—Stella Bernstein

Dear Morris,

Although this was my seventh visit to Eretz Israel, twice for longer periods of time, I must thank you for the best planned and most interesting trip it was my pleasure to enjoy.

—Sam Gurvitz

Dear Morris,

Just a few words to let you know how pleased we were with the 9th annual AINA tour.

—Rae and Al Cohen

Dear Morris,

Just a note to say what we wanted to, as the plane landed in N.Y. The hectic time of getting off and thru customs didn't permit a "goodbye" and a "thank you" for a wonderful time. When we go back to Israel it will be with AINA.

Sincerely,

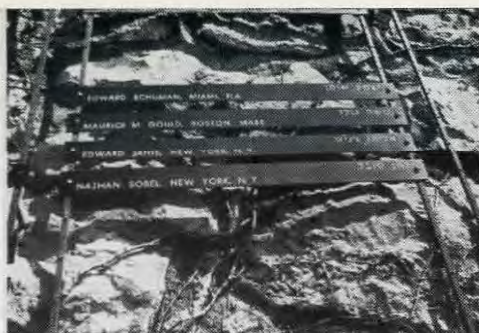
Barney and Mildred Pearl

Dear Morris,

Although we've traveled in many countries and with many tours, this, without doubt, was the greatest and the one we will never forget.

If there is anything I can do for either you or for AINA in the Washington D.C. area, please call on me. I'd consider it a privilege.

Shalom, Louis Cohen



Top left: Signs in the area of AINA's own Grove on the slopes outside Jerusalem honor four AINA Board members. Right: Newly honored AINA leaders Sobel, Janis, Schuman with Morris Bram (whose name appears in another section of the Grove).

Center: AINA Tour members on the now-barren slope set in their trees.

Bottom left to right: Florence Schuman (Miami, Fla.); Lena Bram (N.Y.); and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Roganson (Connecticut).

[The page contains dense handwritten notes and signatures, mostly illegible due to extreme cursive and overlapping ink.]

1969 through 1977

- 35mm, bronze
- numbered
- issued in mintages of about 100 and less





Chagall

CHAGALL'S COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL:
THE HARP
THE STORY BEHIND THE SCENES

by Michael Daniel, Tel Aviv

Chagall's Lithography

Art lovers all over the world are willing to do anything in their power in order to obtain even one Chagall lithograph. They love to look at it to get an insight into the ideas that surround it, and to understand the reality and fantasy that is used in it. People fly like angels and angels walk like human beings. Scenery, people and animals lose their weight with Chagall.

The style of the artist expresses the song of the spirit of man in his pictures, of his joys and his sorrows. This is the reason that you sense a closeness to him when you look at Chagall's paintings. This holds the feeling of its being something of your own, of being yours.

Who would *not* wish to own such a lithograph? The price for even one is very, very high. In 1974, 28 famous lithographs of Chagall were sold by Limley-Cazalrt of London, at prices that ranged between 2,800 pounds sterling and 4,500 pounds sterling. (One pound sterling equals 16 Israeli Lira and today, \$1.70 U.S.).

Look at the following chart.

LUMLEY CAZALET LTD.

November 1974

Marc Chagall — Daphnis & Chloe
Price list

1. (M.308) £3300	15. (M.329) £4200
2. (M.309) 3500	16. (M.330) 2800
3. (M.311) 3300	17. (M.331) 3300
4. (M.313) 2800	18. (M.333) 3000
5. (M.314) 3800	19. (M.334) 4500
6. (M315) 4000	20. (M.336) 3000
7. (M.317) 2800	21. (M.337) 2800
8. (M.319) 4200	22. (M.338) 3200
9. (M.320) 4200	23. (M.339) 3000
10. (M.321) 4500	24. (M.340) 4000
11. (M.323) 3500	25. (M.343) 2800
12. (M.324) 3000	26. (M.344) 3200
13. (M.327) 4000	27. (M.345) 3000
14. (M.328) 3500	28. (M.349) 4000

Today these prices have doubled!

Question: What is a print (a lithograph)?

Original prints are those done by the artist himself, according to his own ideas. Modern prints produced in large numbers must be signed by the artist; only those that are signed are "originals". These supervised prints have all of the characteristics of an original artistic creation.

Over the years, different methods of creating prints were invented. The oldest method is the procedure of raised printing. The intended sketch for the print is raised above the surface. It is drawn on a flat wooden plate and all of the unwanted areas are cut away with a sharp tool. On the remaining raised parts of the newly-made woodcut, inks are spread and then the paper is placed atop. The paper is pressed; what results is called a "woodcut print".

The second method is that of a *sunken* ink printing, the opposite of the raised printing. In this method, the sketch is carved into the plate (zinc, wood, linoleum, etc) by means of a special tool or even by means of an acid (etching). After the ink is spread overall, the face (not the depressions) of the plate is cleaned. A moist piece of paper is placed on top of it and run through a printing device.

An additional method is accomplished by surface printing, based on the non-attraction of oil and water. The sketch is made on a special type of flat stone, with an oily chalk. As you wet the stone, the water will be rejected by the oil line. Only the sketch will accept the oily printing ink or paint. This paint sticks to the line of the print of the sketch but is repelled in open areas by the water. Today with modern methods, we use an aluminum plate instead of a stone plate. This is lithography.

A colored print is made by any of the methods indicated but one has to prepare a separate printing plate for each color or repaint the plate each time with the different colors as needed.

Artist are careful to limit the number of prints in a run and in limited editions number each separate print. For example, "7/60" would mean that this print is the *seventh* of *sixty* prints made. When a printing run is completed, normally the original plates are destroyed in order to insure that no more than the limited number of prints will be made.

This method reminds us of the method of minting coins and commemorative medals, numbering each and destroying the dies.



Chagall . . . a few years ago.

Chagall's Medal

As Chagall approached his ninetieth birthday, he agreed to design an Israeli medal. As we will see, Chagall himself followed the first sample and even added certain corrections. That is the way he is. He was and is a perfectionist. He gets into your spirit, under your skin.

Who is Chagall; where did he spend his childhood; and how did his influence, his character and personality find expression in his prints that are found in all the great Museums?

Marc Chagall was born in the year 1887 in a little town called Lichno near Vitavosk, a district town in the Czar's Russia. His father was a small fish merchant. He was poor but supported a family of nine children. At the age of 16 Chagall moved to Petersburg, (Leningrad) and asked to be accepted in the Academy for Painting. But, he failed the entrance test.

He received a small scholarship and went to learn in a progressive art school of Leo Bakst. There he learned the impressionistic approach, the artists and writings that are symbolistic. Under their influence, he learned to paint Jewish folk subjects. In the year 1910 when he was 23, Marc Chagall left for Paris. Immediately he became part of the famous artists circle, "the Parisian School". In the year 1911 he showed his paintings, among them, "A Man Without a head", and "The Essence of Man" and others.

The influence of Cubism and Pottermism was very apparent in his paintings. In the year 1912 he painted self-portraits with seven fingers. In the year, 1914 he went back to visit Russia and was prevented from leaving again by the War. In 1917 the revolution broke out, and Chagall, who was known as a progressive artist, was chosen as Commissar of the Arts in the District of Vitavosk. He met Jewish artists but had a difference of opinion with the artist Malvitz, one of the leading artists supporting the Revolution.

Chagall returned to his wanderings, and in the year 1922, to Paris. He met surrealist artists seeking to delve into the unknown, but he continued to keep his feet on the ground, to be realistic. His influence continued to grow, his pictures rich with a naive symbolism, his longing for his youth and Jewish roots.

Chagall cannot be labeled as a part of any specific school. He tends toward illogical figurization; there is no logic but there is a lot of feeling — unlimited feeling — and a tendency towards remembrances of the simple life of his youth. In 1941 Chagall moved to the United States. There he lived till the end of World War II when he returned to France where he lives to this day.

He first visited Israel in 1931 and again in 1951. One of his most famous pieces of work are the windows in the Synagogue in the Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem. Each of the windows describes in Chagall's own way, one of the twelve tribes of Israel.

Chagall's Perfectionist Method of Work

When you look at an Artist's picture, it seems to you at first glance that the painting was made by hands that worked according to feeling alone — "not accurate, not exact". But this is a misconception. Chagall is very exact. He prepares exact prints and plans all of his pictures. On these prints you can notice a fine series of coordinates by means of which he transfers the sketch to his final painting. Many years ago a book was printed describing Chagall's preparations for his pictures. It would seem that this method of work is mechanical. That is not the case. It is very exact, in order not to lose the detail of his impressions. In this form we are able to maintain all of the minute details and sensitivity, so important for the overall impression.

This exactness is seen in the preparation of the commemorative medal in honor of the *International Competition of Harpists*. When Chagall was shown the first medal struck, he sent his comments to Israel, and asked that the changes be made on the face of the medal where the harp was imprinted, because in his opinion it had "a mechanical character". He also commented that the character of King David on the reverse of the medal was accompanied by words that were too large, which competed with the sketch. These corrections were made and the final result is balanced and beautiful.

It would be interesting to note that Chagall did not create as large a number of paintings as Picasso, for example, but it should be stressed that every one of his pictures was made very carefully.

Chagall as a Designer of Medals

In preparation for the *First International Competition for the Harp* this artist was asked permission to use his famous painting in which King David is playing the harp to decorate the cover of the brochure about to be printed by the Ministry of Tourism. The artist agreed to this; his famous painting appeared on the cover of this brochure. It was from this contact that the idea to ask Chagall to design a gold medal in the honor of the *Sixth International Competition* began.

We should remember that the printing of a lithograph, or any other picture, or the use of its ideas, requires advance permission of the artist. Chagall does not permit use of his work unless it is for a purpose close to his heart, and even then, only rarely.

Asher Ben Nathan, who had been the Israeli Ambassador in France, approached the artist and requested that he agree to design the commemorative medal that would be minted by the Government and to bear the legend "*International Harp Contest*" which would be held in Jerusalem in 1976. Marc Chagall agreed.

When he received the pre-production sketches, he sent the former ambassador a letter. Chagall (letter of July 26, 1976) confirmed that he had received the sketches but he commented that the face of the coin showing the harp has "mechanical characteristics that must be changed" and that the lettering accompanying the picture of King David on the other face was too big, and "cover up the picture". Chagall concludes with his good wishes and a souvenir from his wife to Mrs. Ben Nathan.



Bar-Kochba coinage with harp motif.



Modern Israel coin.



ANCIENT HARPS OR LYRES.

Additionally, enclosed in Chagall's letter, was his own Hebrew lettering, to be used, in order to correct the design.

A Description of the Medal

What makes this medal different from all other medals known? First of all, it was designed and carries the signature of one of the greatest Jewish painters of our times. Additionally, this was the first time in his life that he designed a medal.

Second, the limited number of each item is numbered exactly in the same way that prints are. It can be said, that anyone who possesses one of these medals — it would be as if he purchased one of the great lithographs of Marc Chagall, in addition to its numismatic value.

The Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation minted 600 of these in all. 100 of these were retained by the IGCAM to given as gifts for special purposes, and 500 were sold by the *Competition* committee to raise money to conduct the event, raising 1.5 million Israel pounds. The money covered all expenses and provided a reserve for the 1978 competition and the 1977 Choir competition.

Each one of these medals is numbered. The circumference of each gold medal is 35mm, and its weight is one ounce. Medal #1 is owned by Marc Chagall.



A 19th Century Bible illustration shows David and harp.



Chagall's sketch



Chagall's medal

On one face is the Chagall picture of King David who sang songs to Israel. His head is crowned with the crown that is connected to his body in the shape of a chicken and with his tail is playing the harp. This face has the artist's signature.

On the reverse is a picture of a harp that is designed in the shape of the letter *Bet*, B, of the Hebrew alphabet. On both sides of the harp are the letters *Nun*, and *Lamed*, equivalent of *N* and *L*. In this way you can read the word *Neval*, which is Hebrew for harp. Under the picture are the words, "Israel 1976" in English.

On the surface, inscribed in Hebrew is "Sixth International Harp Contest, Jerusalem, Elul. 5736 (the Hebrew date); and, on the other side, the same inscription in both English and French.

The International Harp Contest

The harp is a very ancient musical instrument. It is found very clearly on statues made over five thousand years ago. One of the oldest discoveries that was found in the Ur-Kasdim excavation, the place of birth of our forefather Abraham, a royal harp decorated in a very rich manner.

Continued on page 81

AINA'S TREE

OF LIFE

LIFE

MEMBERS



1. Morris Bram, Bayside, N.Y.
2. Edward Janis, N.Y.C., N.Y.
3. Edward Schuman, Miami, Florida
4. Ben Spencer (Deceased)
5. Sidney Smith, Miami, Florida
6. Carl Rosenblum, W. Orange, N.J.
7. Harry Denburg, N.Y.C., N.Y.
8. Joseph Orr, Sr., Altoona, Pa.
9. Lawrence Wohl, Port Chester, N.Y.
10. J. J. Van Grover, N.Y.C., N.Y.
11. Brian Altman, M.D., Cherry Hill, N.J.
12. Rudy Unger (Deceased)
13. Louis P. Zandstein, Bayside, N.Y.
14. Irving Rudin, Milton, Mass.
15. Yitzhak Avni, Jerusalem, Israel
16. Charles M. Silverman, Miami Beach, Fla.
17. Kenneth B. Gibson, Independence, Mo.
18. Sidney L. Olson, Miami Beach, Florida
19. Herbert Drapkin, M.D., Encino, California
20. Dr. Paul T. Rutter, St. Petersburg, Florida
21. Harold Gordon, Malibu, Calif.
22. Dr. Edwin Mendelsohn, Philadelphia, Pa.
23. Joseph Freedland, Wilmington, N.C.
24. Vernon T. Palmer, Dagsboro, Del.
25. Arnold H. Schwartz, Coral Springs, Fla.
26. Thomas C. Doyle, Brookline, Mass.
27. Robert Greenstein, Chicago, Ill.
28. Joseph Kurtzman, M.D., Charleston, S.C.
29. Alan R. Weinberg, Bronx, N.Y.
30. Marshall Brooks, M.D., Ramat Gan, Israel
31. Sidney Bluestone, Southfield, Mi.
32. Harry Flower, Wheaton, Ill.
33. Maurice M. Gould (Deceased)
34. Sheldon Gottlieb, Philadelphia, Pa.
35. Robert Sidener, Sarasota, Fla.
36. Moe Weinschel, Belle Harbor, N.Y.
37. Ira Rezak, M.D., N.Y., N.Y.
38. Robert Messing, N.Y.C., N.Y.
39. Stanley Yulish, Cleveland, Ohio
40. Morris Franco, Elmont, N.Y.
41. Morton M. Silverman, Los Angeles, Calif.
42. Howard F. Harris, Ottawa, Canada
43. George Manstein, M.D., Rydal, Pa.
44. Charles Liberman, M.D., Winthrop, Mass.
45. Arthur Marshall, Springfield, Mass.
46. Arnold H. Kagan, Hewlett Harbor, N.Y.
47. Paul B. Adler, San Francisco, Calif.
48. Leon E. Mendel, Columbus, Ohio
49. Eva B. Adams, Reno, Nevada
50. Herbert A. Marten, North Massapequa, N.Y.
51. Fred J. Rumpalik, Cleveland, Ohio
52. Seymour I. Woods, Edison, N.J.
53. Frank J. Pivnick, Phoenix, Az.
54. Mrs. Miriam Olson, Miami Beach, Fla.
55. Mark Denburg, Miami Beach, Fla.
56. Edward C. Adleman, Camden, N.J.
57. Gil Levy, Olympia Fields, Ill.
58. Mrs. Felix Wolf, Miami Beach, Fla.
59. Ronald Don, Miami, Fla.
60. George Gilbert, Riverdale, N.Y.
61. Albert Schneider, Scarsdale, N.Y.
62. Jules Lambek, Hewlet, N.Y.
63. Robert S. Cohen, Rockville, Md.
64. Irwin Stoff, Rockville Centre, N.Y.
65. Mrs. Mildred Abramowitz, Miami Beach, Fla.
66. Jack L. Burman, Hallandale, Fla.
67. Samuel L. Smith, Freeport, Grand Bahama
68. Kenneth T. Wolf, Yonkers, N.Y.
69. Mrs. Selma Denburg, Miami Beach, Fla.
70. Meyer Kaminsky, Brooklyn, N.Y.
71. Robert M. Newman, Shaker Hts., Ohio
72. Jack B. Salb, N.Y.C., N.Y.
73. Raphael Ellenbogen, Brooklyn, N.Y.
74. Herbert Kreindler, Dix Hills, N.Y.
75. Arthur Reich, Bayside, N.Y.
76. Sally Marx, Canoga Park, Calif.
77. George J. Fromer, Bronx, N.Y.
78. James A. Glenn, Santa Monica, Calif.
79. Richard D. Herman, Webb A.F.B., Texas
80. Stanley D. Schulman, M.D., E. Northport, N.Y.
81. Dwight Whipple, Minneapolis, Mn.
82. Sanford Brown, Mayfield Hts., Ohio
83. Milton J. Becker, Portsmouth, Va.
84. Edward Baruch, Stamford, Ct.
85. Philip E. Benedetti, Stamford, Ct.
86. Robert A. Zenilman, Woodmere, N.Y.
87. Larry Chase, N.Y.C., N.Y.
88. Diane Colton, Bloomfield Hills, Mi.
89. Samuel Halperin, Washington, D.C.
90. Max L. Kaplan, Pompano, Fla.
91. Donald M. Richter, Haverstown, Pa.
92. Jack Kushner, Flushing, N.Y.
93. Philip Sperber, New Rochelle, N.Y.
94. Harold Kopp, Greenwich, Ct.
95. E. M. Conlin, Verdun, P.Q.
96. A. M. Smith, Flint, Mi.
97. Robert G. Schrom, Lititz, Pa.
98. George Dillingham, Floral Park, N.Y.
99. Armin Hoffman, Bronx, N.Y.
100. Morton Zerder, Syosset, N.Y.
101. Murphy H. Green, Harlan, Ky.
102. Jeffrey M. Levitt, Birmingham, Ala.
103. Fred I. Sear, Cranford, N.J.
104. Gerald Sabath, N.Y.C., N.Y.
105. Shmuel Aharoni, Rego Park, N.Y.
106. Henry Korczynski, Passaic, N.J.
107. Bernard Jacobson, Berwyn, Ill.
108. Gary Paluba, M.D., N.Y.C., N.Y.
109. Martin Morgenstern, New Rochelle, N.Y.
110. Leonard Reuven, Mayfield Hts., Ohio
111. Pinhas Friedenber, Brooklyn, N.Y.
112. Donna J. Sims, Upland, Calif.
113. Bernard Yesner, Coral Gables, Fla.
114. Trosi Kaplan, Needham Hts., Mass.
115. C. Edward Higgs, Levittown, Pa.
116. Mrs. Bernice Bohowsky, Yakima, Wa.
117. Gabriel Tuder, M.D., Bayonne, N.J.
118. G. W. Isenberg, M.D., Birmingham, Mi.
119. Melvin E. Rossman, M.D., Islip Terrace, N.Y.
120. Marian A. Sinton, Redwood City, Calif.
121. Bernard B. Franklin, M.D., Beverly Hills, Calif.
122. Darryl Shurgin, Brooklyn, N.Y.
123. Cancelled
124. Irwin H. Mason, Miami Beach, Fla.
125. Yasha Beresiner, London, England
126. Joseph Harvey, Staten Island, N.Y.
127. Arthur Leff, Ontario, Canada
128. David Paszaman, Highland Park, N.J.
129. Robert H. Schwartz, Chicago, Ill.
130. Issac Pulvermacher, Brooklyn, N.Y.
131. Arnold A. Pine, De Witt, N.Y.
132. Mitchell S. Cappell, Bronx, N.Y.
133. Samuel Segal, Jr., Miami Beach, Fla.
134. Isidore M. Mindel, Brooklyn, N.Y.
135. Peter Chas. Moss, Teaneck, N.J.

MEET THE NATION'S OUTSTANDING NUMISMATIC LEADERSHIP

HAVE YOU
PAID CLUB DUES?



ALASKA

INS of Alaska (Covers all Alaska)

First President: R. Brock Shamberg Year: 1976-77

CALIFORNIA

Israel Coin Club of L.A. (Los Angeles, California)

First President: Benjamin A. Abelson Year: 1965-66

Second: Jerry Yahalom 1967

Next: William Sadler 1968

Next: Bob Berman 1969

Next: Milton M. Fishgold 1970

Next: Nathan Bromberg 1971

Next: Claire R. Abelson 1972

Next: Maurice M. Gould 1973

Next: Dr. Sol Taylor 1974

Next: Val Mogenson (4 months only)

Next: Benjamin Abelson (Acting President) 1975

Next: Milton M. Fishgold 1976

Next: Dr. Nat B. Gitlin 1977

INS of Los Angeles (Los Angeles, Beverly Hills)

First Executive Director:

Murray Singer Year: 1976-77

INS of San Gabriel Valley (Alhambra, Ca. and San Gabriel Valley Area.)

First President: Jack McQuaide Year: 1969-70

Second: Alva Christensen 1970-71

Next: Ralph Marx 1971-72

Next: Sally Marx 1972-73

Next: Sally Marx 1973-74

Next: Lester Dubin 1974-75

Next: Lester Dubin 1975-76

Next: Sarah Breslow 1976-77

INS of San Fernando Valley (San Fernando Valley, L.A. Calif)

First President: Jerry Yahalom Year: 1971-1973

Second: Peggy Borgolte 1973-1975

Next: Herbert Drapkin M.D. 1975-1977



WE LIKE
ANSWERING
QUESTIONS

One of the most exciting parts of the AINA world is the life of its clubs and affiliated numismatic groups, all centering their focus on the study of the coinage of ancient and modern Israel.

A number of these clubs precede the existence of AINA itself. Most others were formed after 1967 by the diligent effort of the officers of AINA working together with the executives of the IG-CAM. City after city was visited where

CONNECTICUT

INS of Connecticut (Hartford, Conn.)

First President: Joseph Battalion Year: 1972

Second: Charles Surasky 1973

Next: Albert H. Gledhill 1974

Next: Albert H. Gledhill 1975

Next: Richard Reinhardt 1976

Next: Fred Roganson 1977

FLORIDA

INS of Broward (Broward County, Florida)

First President: Rose E. Kantor Year: 1977

GEORGIA

INS of Georgia (Atlanta, Georgia)

First President: Bennett B. Herzfeld Year: 1970-1977

ILLINOIS

INS of Illinois (Chicago and Suburbs)

First President: Harry Flower Year: 1969-1972

Second: Dr. Saul Needleman 1972-1974

Next: Stewart Koppel 1974-1976

Next: Dr. Morris Goldberg 1977

MARYLAND

INS of Maryland (Baltimore Metropolitan Area)

First President: Harold Mondell Year: 1970-1972

Second: Donald Sussman 1972-1974

Next: Ruby Fier 1974-1975

Next: Ben Fishman 1975-1976

Next: Ann Kuff 1976-1977

MICHIGAN

INS of Michigan

First President: Sydney Bluestone Year: 1969-72

Second: Dr. Burton Zack 1973-74

Next: Jack Schwartz 1975

Next: Isaiah Shafir 1976-77

MINNESOTA

Minnesota Israel Numismatic

First President: Dr. Austin Wagenknecht Year: 1974-1976

Next: Irene Klugman 1976-1977

MONTREAL

INS of Montreal (Montreal & Immediate Area)

First President: Louis Goldsmith (deceased) Year: 1972

Second: Isidore Baum 1973-1977

WE PROUDLY PRESENT CLUB PRESIDENTS: PAST AND PRESENT

there were existing coin collectors who had indicated that they would be receptive to the formation in their area of an Israel Numismatic Society.

An educational meeting and an introduction to the AINA idea was presented to local numismatists and to others seeking to share the social life and culture in an INS group. Today's groups meet in bank offices, schools, temples, libraries, and occasionally in church meeting rooms.

The INS executives are elected by the members and the leading members of the community are often active members. INS officers include doctors, attorneys, accountants, businessmen, men and women. (A number of INS groups have had or have today a president who is a woman.)

This list is a partial list of AINA societies. For one reason or another, some clubs could not meet the press deadlines.

NEW JERSEY

INS of New Jersey (Metropolitan N.J.)

First President: Carl Rosenblum	Year: 1972-73
Second: Howard Finke	1973-74
Next: Sid Moskowitz	1974-75
Next: Dr. Harold Grubin	1975-76
Next: Milton Gottlieb	1976-77

INS of Central Jersey (New Brunswick, Highland Park)

First President: David Paszamant	Year: 1973
Second: Allan L. Greenberg	1975
Next: Eric Baelen	1977

INS of Northern New Jersey (centering about Paramus)

First President: Peter Moss	1975-1977
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INS of South Jersey (Greater Camden County)

First President: Edward C. Adleman	Year: 1976-77
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NEW YORK

INS of New York (Manhattan)

First President: Morris Bram	Year: 1966-69
Second: Ed Janis	1970-71
Next: Harry Schacher	1972-73
Next: Al Yatkowitz	1974-75
Next: Nathan Sobel	1976-77

INS of Long Island (Long Island, New York)

First President: Morris Bram	Year: 1970
Second: Mel Wacks	1971
Next: Moe Weinschel	1972
Next: Irwin Stoff	1973
Next: Dave Gotlieb	1974-1975
Next: Morty Zerder	1976-1977

INS of Brooklyn (N.Y.)

First President: Nathan Sobel	Year: 1971-75
Second: Alfred Yatkowitz	1976-77

INS of Queens (Queens, N.Y.)

First President: Moe Weinschel	Year: 1975-76
Next: Robert M. Lane	1977

Westchester Israel Numismatic Society (Westchester County, N.Y.)

First President: Edward Weiss	Year: 1973-74
Second: Philip Sperber	1974-76
Next: Albert Schmeidler	1977

OHIO

INS of Cleveland (Greater Cleveland, Ohio area)

First President: Robert Green	Year: 1967-68
Second: Stanley Yulish	1968-69
Next: Mike Kornhauser	1969-70
Next: Max Gladstone	1970-71
Next: Richard Wengel	1971-73
Next: Sanford Brown	1973-75
Next: Ray Nolan	1975-77

PENNSYLVANIA

Israel Numismatic Society of Pa. (Philadelphia & Suburbs)

First President: Judge J. Sidney Hoffman	Year: 1971
Second: Arnold Shay	1972-74
Next: Mort Sandler	1975-76
Next: Raymond Vecbit	1977

Israel Numismatic Society of Greater Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh & Western Pennsylvania, & Environs)

First President: Aaron B. Ilson (Rabbi)	Year: 1970-1973
Next: Morris Freezman	1973-1974

Next: Aaron B. Ilson (Rabbi)	1974-1977
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TEXAS

INS of Texas (Houston area)

First President: Harold Z. Nelkin	Year: 1969-1973
Next: Herb Oberman	1974
Next: Irving Passman	1975
Next: Harold Z. Nelkin	1976-77

VIRGINIA

Richmond Israel Numismatic Society (Richmond, Va. Metropolitan Area)

First President: David Mollen	Year: 1976-77
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INS of Tidewater, Va. (Norfolk, Va.)

First President: Mort Ronick	Year: 1973-74
Second: Milton Becker	1975-76
Next: Dr. I. Leonard Kaplan	1977

WASHINGTON, D.C.

INS of Washington, D.C. (National Capital Area)

First President: Sol Cohen	Year: 1968-70
Second: Herbert Mendelson	1970-71
Next: Adolf Bondy	1971-73
Next: Nelson M. Whitman	1973-75
Next: John Jefferson	1975-77



“BROTHERHOOD IN JERUSALEM, CAPITAL OF ISRAEL”: THEME OF 29th ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE COIN

On April 21st, 1977, Israel issued a new coin to commemorate its 29th Anniversary. It highlights the theme: *Brotherhood in Jerusalem, Capital of Israel. Jerusalem the Holy City to three faiths: Judaism, Christianity and Islam.*

The new commemorative coin will be issued in two varieties, namely B.U. (*Brilliant Uncirculated*) and Proof. The *obverse* of the coin features symbolic buildings behind a wall, carried on the wings of a dove. The words “*Brotherhood in Jerusalem, Capital of Israel*” are inscribed in Hebrew and English around the rim. The *reverse* of the coin depicts the value “25 Liriots”. The State Emblem and the word “Israel” in Hebrew, Arabic and English, and the year “5737-1977”. The rim carries the inscription in Hebrew: “29 Years to the State of Israel”.

The B.U. and Proof coins are both of silver .500, weigh 20 grams, and are 34mm in diameter. The B.U. coin is

mintmarked with the Star of David; the Proof coin is mintmarked with the Hebrew letter ‘Mem’. Both coins were struck by the Government Mint in Jerusalem. Asaf Berg of Jerusalem designed the coin.

These new coins have been offered by mail to AINA members with a limit of one coin of each variety per member. Orders and covering payment were to be mailed and postmarked not later than May 15, 1977.

The B.U. coin is \$16.50; Proof is \$31.50. Prices include postage and handling. New York residents ordering must add applicable sales tax.

Final mintage figures will be announced by the IGCAM once all orders are in, following the cut-off date. Collectors are assured of acquiring at least one coin of each variety; additional coins can be purchased from coin dealers who are also assured of acquiring new issues.

The **ALPH BETH** Page ...Dedicated to the Beginner

by Edward Janis



Coins of Modern Israel are collected in many ways:

1) By *date* that is, one date for each denomination; 2) By *type* or *series*, viz: one coin of each of the *pruta* series or one coin of each of the *agora* series. It may also be of a *commemorative series* such as the one-pound, the five-pound or the ten-pound pieces; 3) By *varieties*, that is, the same coin denomination in different sizes, metals, edges, finishes, designs, etc.

A good way to start is to request visitors to bring "one of each" of the current legal tender, or to look in foreign coin boxes in local coin shops. These coins historically never really increase in value in proportion to true uncirculated coins. You may obtain information from the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation, 641 Lexington Ave., N.Y., N.Y. 10022, or receive them at issuer's cost as they are issued, if you are a member in good standing of the American Israel Numismatic Association. The foregoing is equally true of medals, paper money and tokens.

The Israel Government has issued presentation sets. In the past they were eighteen different trade coins. In 1963 uncirculated sets of 6 current coins were issued in decorative sealed holders. Since 1965, these sets were proof-like coins in informative sealed holders.

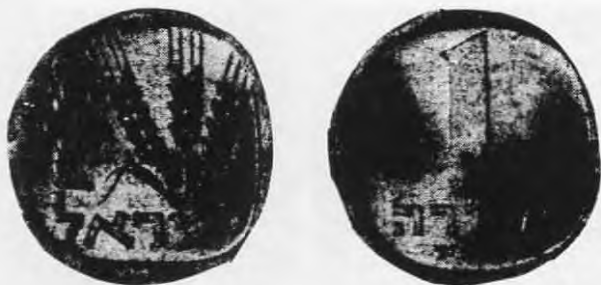
This is the identical article which was the first Alph Beth column ever readied by Ed Janis. His column has appeared without exception in every issue of The Shekel, an unmatched record of contribution to the Association's publication. Mr. Janis requested the repeat of his first column as a still-timely, but also sentimental contribution—The Editor.

The Shekel will bring you timely articles on the foregoing, but a handbook or catalog such as "The History of Modern Israel's Money" by Sylvia Haffner or Kagan's "Israel's Money and Medals" is recommended for its completeness and detailed knowledge. Israel's coins generally fall into the following classes:

1) **TRADE COINS**—those coins which were struck for circulation and were to be used in daily business for the purchase of goods and services within Israel. To date, this has consisted of two series. The mil and pruta series, now obsolete, contained nine different denominations which have been systematically withdrawn and reduced to scrap since January 1, 1960. This coinage has been replaced with a new series known as the agora series. In the pruta group, there was no change of date, except if there was a change in design, size, metal, edge device, etc. In the agora series, the date on the coin represents the actual year of striking.

2) **COMMEMORATIVE COINS**—have been issued annually since the 10th anniversary in 1958. The five-pound series is complete to date in both proof and regular issues. The one-pound series was issued until 1963. In 1960 two pieces have the English date although the Hebrew dates are 5720 and 5721 respectively. This accounts for the lack of an English date for 1959. Half-Shekel commemorative Purim coins were struck in 1961 and 1962. Gold commemorative coins were issued for Theodor Herzl in 1960 two for Dr. Chaim Weizmann in 1962 for the 10th anniversary.

Continued on page 83



Israel's aluminum one agora, supposedly discontinued in 1976, has appeared with the Hebrew date 5737, or 1977. (Courtesy of Carl Rosenblum, Washington, D.C.)

ISRAEL COIN MINTAGES SUBJECT OF NEW REPORT

The continuing story of Israel's modern trade coins has produced additional itmes of interest, report Samuel Lachman, Haifa, Israel, and Carl Rosenblum, East Orange, N.J., reports *Coin World*.

Lachman, a numismatist who carefully records mintage figures released by the Bank of Israel, the Jewish nation's bank of issue, reports an addition to the figures first released.

These showed totals for coins struck bearing the Hebrew date 5736, or autumn 1975—autumn 1976: 4,512,000 aluminum one agora; 13,156,000 aluminum five agorot; 34,870,000 10-agorot aluminum-bronze; 3,901,000 25-agorot in the same alloy; 4,959,000 cupronickel half-lira pieces; and 4,268,000 one-lira coins.

All of these were struck at the Israel Mint on David Remez Street, Jerusalem. Now added is a total of 20,000,006 more 10-agorot coins, struck on contract by the Royal Canadian Mint.

This makes a total for that date of 54,870,006 10-agorot coins, a massive number for a piece costing some six agorot each to strike. For some months, it has been rumored that the Israel government may authorize the striking of the 10 agorot in aluminum as a cost-saving device.

Like the one-pound coins struck by the Royal Australian Mint some time ago, there seems to be no distinguishing mark on the Canadian strikes of the 10 agorot, although avid collectors are sure to examine the pieces hopefully for any varieties.

Dealer Carl Rosenblum has received all of Israel's trade coins dated 5737 in the Hebrew calendar. The date is formed by the letters whose numerical equivalents add up to "737," tav, 40; shin, 300; lamed, 30; and zayin, seven.

The cupronickel one lira, or Israel pound and half lira; aluminum-bronze 25 and 10 agorot; and aluminum five agorot are all of the regular types first struck in the 1960s.

5737-Date 1-Agora

A mystery, however, is the presence of a 5737-dated scalloped aluminum one agorot, which was reportedly discontinued last year, when this light metal was adopted for the five agorot. No one seems to know why one-agora pieces were struck this year.

Whether the new date will prove of any significant numismatic rarity remains to be seen Rosenblum notes.



1972 Medal of Kiryat Gat

TWO ISRAEL CITY MEDALS

by Shmuel Matalon, Tel-Aviv

To the series of Israel's City Medals, two more may be added: those of *Kiryat Gat* and *Ashdod*.

Kiryat Gat was founded in 1955, planned as an urban centre of the Lahish County, a "development area", situated on the corssroads between Tel-Aviv and Beer Sheva. Its population of 26,000 inhabitants comes from 35 (no mistake—thirty five!) countries! The growth of Kiryat Gat was rapid as it became an industrial center.

The only medal *Kiryat Gat* has issued is this one, on the occasion of the change in its municipal status from a local council to a city in 1972. The medal is in bronze, size 4.5cm, depicting on the obverse the emblem of the city and its name both in Hebrew and English. On the reverse, a few houses, public institutions, industrial plants and the Biblical address to signify the fact that the population is composed of emigrants from 35 countries.

The second medal belongs to Ashdod, famous for its port. In earlier times it was a big, important city, and played a major role in the area. In the War of Independence, bitter battles took place here against the Egyptians forces, and Israeli soldiers did not let them proceed further.

Ashdod was founded in 1958, and on the occasion of its 18th (*Hai*) Anniversary, this medal was issued (in bronze, 4.50 cm.)

On the obverse - the words: *Municipality of Ashdod*, both in Hebrew and English, with the date 1958-1976, 18 years to *Ashdod*; and the anchor that symbolizes its being the southern port of Israel.

On the reverse — a quotation from the Bible — the tearing down of the walls of Ashdod and Yavne, and the building of cities in Ashdod, which proves again its being an important centre at the old times.

The number of city medals of Israel has grown, and Israel collectors will find it a good idea to start a collection on this topic.



18th Anniversary Medal of Ashdod (1958-76)

GOLD IN ISRAEL'S COINS AND MEDALS

by Martin George Morgenstern

In recent years the IGCNC produced coins and medals in precious metal; IGCNC has used gold, silver and platinum. As a sophisticated collector, it is important to know what part of the coin is the precious metal. To do this, you must know how to convert grams into carats to grams, etc.

Pure gold is yellow, a soft metal. In order to give the gold hardness, another metal is added. By adding copper to gold, the result is a reddish-yellow color often used in coins and jewelry. White gold is a combination of gold with platinum, palladium, nickel or zinc. Green gold is created with silver and gold. By adding different alloys, the appearance can change from red to yellow to green to blue or other colors.

Depending on the percents of pure gold to an alloy, the color can change. For example, in yellow gold, the more copper that is used, the darker the color of the metal will be. since gold used on coinage is a combination of metals, it is necessary to measure what part is gold and what part is of another alloy.

Gold is measured in carats. Twenty four carats is equal to pure gold. *Table I* shows the percent of gold in percent (or fineness) to carats. Precious metals are weighed in grams, grains, or pennyweight. *Table II* shows how to convert these units from one to another.

In order to determine the value of gold in a coin or medal, multiply the gold fineness by the weight of the total coin or medal.

TABLE I

GOLD IN CARATS	PERCENT OF GOLD
8k	.333333
10k	.416666
12k	.500000
14k	.583333
16k	.666666
18k	.750000
20k	.833333
22k	.916666
24k	1.0000

TABLE II

TROY WEIGHT OF PRECIOUS METALS

3.086 grains (gr)	= 1 carat (car) = 200 mg.
24 grains	= pennyweight (dwt)
	= 1555 grams (g)
20 pennyweight	= 1 troy ounce (oz T)
	= 31.1035 grams (g)
12 troy ounces	= 1 pound (lb T)
	= .03732 kg.
or: 5760 grains	= 1 pound (lb T)
	= 0.0648 grams.

TABLE 2A

1 grain	= .064796 gram
	.04166 pennyweight
	.002083 troy ounce
	.000174 troy pound
	.0000648 kilogram
1 gram	= 15.4324 grains
	0.6430 pennyweight
	.032151 troy ounce
	.002679 troy pound
	.001 kilogram
1 Pennyweight	= 24 grains
	1.5552 grams
	.65 troy ounce
	.004167 troy pound
	.001555 kilograms
1 Troy ounce	= 480 grains
	31.1035 grams
	20 pennyweight
	.0311 kilograms
1 Troy lb	= 5,760 grains
	373.242 grams
	240 pennyweight
	12 troy ounce
	.373 kilograms
1 Kilograms	= 15,432 grains
	1000 grams
	643 pennyweight
	32.15 troy ounces
	2.680 troy lb.

This will give to net weight of pure gold in the coin. This figure multiplied by 3.2150722 will yield the gold weight troy ounces (or the value of gold in dollars if gold is selling for \$100 per ounce). In March, 1976, it was \$150.00 per ounce.

An example is the Israel Bond Issue, *Table III*. Gold 900 x weight 20 equals 18 grams of pure gold. 18 grams of pure gold times 3.2150722 equals 57.87. This

means if gold were selling at \$100 per ounce this coin contains \$57.87 of gold. If gold goes up to \$135 per ounce, multiply the 57.87 by \$135 to get the price of \$78.12 (for the gold content).

Table III is a list of medals. These tables only give gold value, not the numismatic value or the pleasure value one enjoys in owning these coins or medals.

TABLE III

COIN	GOLD	WEIGHT	IF GOLD IS \$100 per oz
Herzl (1960)	.9166	7.988 grams	\$23.54
Dr. Weizmann (1962)	.9166		
50 Pound		13.34 gm.	39.32
100 Pound		26.68 gm.	78.62
Bank of Israel (1964)	.9166	13.34 gm.	39.32
Victory Coin (1967)	.9166	26.28 gm.	78.63
Jerusalem (1968)	.8000	25 gm.	64.30
Shalom (1969)	.8000	25 gm.	64.30
Let My People Go (1971)	.9000	22 gm.	63.66
Declaration of Independence (1973)			
50 Pound	.900	7 gm.	20.26
100 Pound	.900	13.5 gm.	39.06
200 Pound	.900	27 gm.	78.13
Ben Gurion	.900	28 gm.	81.02
Israel Bond	.900	20 gm.	57.87

TABLE IV

STATE MEDALS

		WT.	TOTAL WT.	FINENESS IN GRAMS
Liberation (1958)				
Liberation (1962)				
	19mm (750)	18	5 gm.	12.055
	22mm (750)	18	8 gm.	19.29
	27mm (750)	18	15 gm.	36.17
Bar Mitzvah (1961)				
	19mm (750)	18	5 gm.	12.05
	22mm (750)	18	8 gm.	19.29
	27mm (750)	18	15 gm.	36.17
Terra Sancta (1963)		916.6	29 gm.	85.46
Masada (1964)		916.6	15 gm.	44.20
Rothschild (1966)		917	30 gm.	88.45
Balfour				
Declaration (1967)		917	30 gm.	88.45
El Al Airlines (1969)		916.6	30 gm.	88.40
Keren Hayesod (1970)		916.6	29 gm.	85.46
Jerusalem (1966)		916.65	29 gm.	85.46
The Diamond		916.65	29 gm.	85.46
Rubinstein Piano		916.65	30 gm.	88.41
Jubilee of the Technion		916.65	30 gm.	88.41

The INDOMITABLE SPIRIT*

By Franz Frankl

The excellent German catalog "Money of the Concentration and Displaced Persons Camps 1933 - 1945" by Dr. Albert Pick and Carl Siemsen is but the first concentrated effort to shed some light into the reasons that the infamous Waffen SS issued these moneys. Whenever Concentration Camp Money is discussed, most survivors of the Camps or Ghettos exclaim: *Money? For what? There was nothing to buy!*

The authors of the catalog in the Introduction and by grouping into the moneys of (I am disregarding DP Camps)

- A) . . . the year of 1933
- B) . . . the Ghettos
- C) . . . Premium Notes (*Praemien-scheine*)

show the true intention of the Master Race: to squeeze the utmost out of the Human Body! Once the slaves were unable to do the arduous labor, they were fodder for the gasovens.

The appendix to the catalog is even better; it lists in detail the "Service Regulations" (*Dienstvorschrift*) of May 15, 1943. These regulations appeal to the basic instincts of the Human Body. *Regulation No 5 f.i.* grants in special cases of an excellent work record, the privilege of a visit to a bordello, where women inmates of the camp were pressed "into service"! Of course these regulations were valid only for the Gentile and Jewish labor force of the camps; they had nothing to do with the other Jewish inmates who at that time were destined for the Final Solution.

A recent overseas Judaic Auction had a few Syngraphic lots from Camps:

Cigarette Ration - Coffeehouse Ticket - Bath Tokens - Transportation Tokens, to and from work - Cultural event programs - O P E R A Ticket.

Yes, an *Opera Ticket* from the Theresienstadt Ghetto! The Jews were often called *The People Of The Book* and in all the dreary surroundings of the Ghetto, early in 1944, Victor Ullman a disciple of Schoenberg, composed in Theresienstadt a chamber opera: *Der Kaiser von Atlantis*

oder Der Tod Dankt Ab" ("The Emperor of Atlantis or Death Resigns").

The lyricist Peter Kien was another inmate of the Ghetto. The libretto, a poem, is about the Emperor of Atlantis who has declared a holy war on mankind. Death, however, is overworked and goes on strike; the parallel to Hitler and his world is easily discernable. Libretto and Score are written on the Reverse of the official questionnaire (*Fragebogen fuer die im Alters Ghetto haushaeltlichen Juden aus dem Reichsgebiet*). The author saw one of the filled-out forms and here are some of the questions and answers.

No. 6 Race? Jew by birth (Volljude)
 No. 7 Religion? Protestant (Evangelisch)
 No. 13 Domicile changed to TH.
 (*Verlegt nach*)? October 4, 1943.

Written and composed in the Ghetto, the character of the Emperor bears a resemblance to Hitler; other dramatis Personae are *Death - A Girl - A Soldier - The Loudspeaker - The Drum*.

The Campcommando knew about the work and censored it; it further gave permission for a performance, by inmates, in Theresienstadt. Rehearsals were in full swing, date of performance was set . . . *when composer, lyricist, the singers and musicians were deported to Auschwitz*. Only a partial copy of the score survived the Holocaust. This was later entrusted to the British Composer Kerry Woodward. The opera had its *World Premiere* in 1975 in Amsterdam. The US Premiere will take place in May 1977 at the *Brooklyn Academy of Music*. The INDOMITABLE SPIRIT survived!

The author wants to express his special appreciation to Dr. Fred Grubel of the Leo Baeck Institute, NY, for granting permission to inspect the manuscript of the Opera.

* IN MEMORIAM
 of the parents
 of Hilde F. and Edith K.

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COINS OF ANCIENT ISRAEL

by David Hendin



THE COIN OUR PUBLICATION IS NAMED AFTER

The shekel, coin after which our 10-year-old magazine is named, is possibly the most fabled and romantic of all the ancient coins. It is, however, not the most ornate or the most beautiful.

That honor would have to go to the lovely coins of the Greeks, issued hundreds of years before our modest silver shekel.

But our shekel is beautiful in its simplicity. And beautiful in its symbolism. And when one considers the genuine strife under which our shekel was conceived, designed and issued, one will have even more appreciation of the coin.



The obverse shows a chalice with the ancient Hebrew inscription, "Shekel of Israel," with the date in Hebrew letters above the chalice. The reverse shows a stem with three pomegranates and carries the inscription "Jerusalem the holy." Jewish shekels always weight approximately 14 grams, and the edges have been hammered (peened) uniformly.

Biblically the shekel was of course altogether different than the shekel we are talking about. When, as the Old Testament tells us, Abraham was buying a piece of land, he "weighed to Ephron . . . four hundred shekels of silver, current money with the merchant," (Gen. 23:16), we

know that they were talking of "shekel" a weight of silver, and not a coin. How do we know?

Coins as we know them were not even invented until a little before 600 B.C.E. by the Lydians and Ionians of Asia Minor.

The shekel whose photograph is carried on the cover of each issue of this magazine was not issued until the First Jewish War Against Rome, also known as the First Revolt, which took place from 66 to 70 C.E.

Our shekel is a controversial coin. For many years most numismatic scholars were of the belief that the "thick Jewish shekels," as they were called in the late 1800s and early 1900s, were actually issued by Simon Maccabee, who was apparently at one time granted permission by Antiochus VII Sidetes, Seleucid Ruler of Syria, to mint coins of his own for the land of Judaea.

Today, however, we are fairly sure that Simon never actually issued coins, since Antiochus may have revoked his grant. At any rate, archaeological and historical evidence have by this time absolutely proven that the silver Jewish shekels date from the First Revolt.

The war lasted for less than five years—but it ran into five different years. Hence these coins were issued with five different dates—year one through year five.

The rarest of the shekels were issued in the year five, next in rarity was the fourth year, then the first year. By far the most common of the shekels were issued during

Continued on page 83

THE TOLERANZPATENT OF JOSEPH II



by Moshe Doron,
Ramat-Gan

In 1744, during the rule of Maria Theresa, the edict to banish the Jews from Bohemia, Muravia and Silesia was announced. Due to the efforts of some members of other dominions, the Edict of Banishment was abolished and in 1748 the Jews succeeded in getting legal rights for a settlement of three millions gilding a year.

The position of Jewish communities in all the Austrian dominions was difficult, limiting their private lives and their regular learning in the Yeshiboth. Maria Theresa, during her rule, granted the Jews some rights in order to develop the trade and industry of the country.

In 1772 when Poland was first divided, the greatest group of Galician Jews passed under the rule of Hasburg House reign. They began a permanent emigration from this country to Vienna and Bohemia. The movement of Shabethai Zvi shook the Austrian Jewry.

Emperor Joseph II (1788-1790) was the son of Maria Theresa. As a part of his general program of reform, he tried to change the role of the Jews to useful citizens for the country. He found only a small part of the Jews were satisfied with his general program of reform. He encouraged Jews to engage in handicrafts and agriculture; he granted them educational

facilities and also gave them full liberty in industry. In 1782 they summed up his programs in two Edicts Toleranzpatent, one for the Vienna and Austrian Jews and the other for the Bohemian and Moravian Jews. To the Vienna Jews he gave more liberty to work, and to attend schools and even universities. He also revoked the ignominy sign and skull tax. In return he imposed on Jews the use of the language and the duty of army service. The Edict of Joseph II especially in the educational field and military service was then accepted in goodwill by the intellectuals and especially by the Jews who were in the Court.

Naphtali Herz Weisel became the speaker of the intellectuals of Austria. In 1782 he tried to clarify to the communities in "Contarssso" (*Speaking Faith & Peace*) and to prove to them the blessing hidden behind these edicts. Rabbi David Tebal Melissa, Rabbi Yeheskel Landa and others saw in these Edicts an undermining of Jewish roots. Against this viewpoint, Weisel went out with more arguments in 1782. The effect of the "Act of Tolerance" (Oct. 13 1781) and other Decrees in 1782 were disregarded, hardly changing the way of life of Austrian Jewry, existing more in law than in fact.



Pewter and Silver, 45mm by Oxlein; Freedom of belief granted to Protestants and Jews by the Emperor Joseph II. He visited the Netherlands and the Low Countries in 1781.



Pewter 45mm and Silver 40mm. 1782 medal by Reich. Freedom of belief granted to Protestants and Jews by the Emperor Joseph II. This medal was struck on the occasion of his visit to the Northern Netherlands to express Dutch appreciation of his Tolerance.



Brass medal of 30mm of 1781 by unknown artist commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Tolerance Act of 13 Oct. 1781.

EDUCATIONAL LECTURES
DEVELOPED BY VOLUNTEERS
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A number of leading individuals in and around the country have made major contributions to the education and stimulation of interest in Israel's coinage.

Foremost among these are the West Coast pioneers Ben and Claire Abelson who were first to tape and circulate lectures with musical accompaniment and slides illustrating the major points of their presentations. A team led by Stanley Yulish and Ray Nolan centering around members of the Cleveland INS then brought together a vast array of numismatic materials to provide a dramatic series of additional lectures.

This is the present library from which all clubs and any member-at-large seeking to present a story on Israel's numismatics to a temple, lodge, school or other social/cultural club may borrow the A/V packet.

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- #9 *Numismatic Reflections of Ghetto Lodz* — Award Exhibit - Stan Yulish
- #10 *Israel's Stamps and Coins* — Al Friedberg and Stan Yulish
- #11 *Profile of the Interim Period — Israel from 1948-50 Award Exhibit* — Stan Yulish
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- #14 *Judaic Portrait Medals — Award Exhibit* — Harry Flower
- #15 *Jewish Medals of Interest* — Stan Yulish

MILITARY MEDALS OF THE HOLY LAND



PARATROOPS MEDAL - 1967

This medal was issued in Israel and presented to all members of the Paratroops division that participated in the battles at the cities listed below, during the "Six-Day-War."

METAL: Silver
EDGE: Plain
DIAMETER: 59mm

OBVERSE: Around the rim in Hebrew, "PARATROOPS DIVISION/SIX-DAY-WAR," in the center an eagle in full flight.
REVERSE: Above, in Hebrew, "THE DIVISION BATTLES;" below, to the right an open parachute; to the right, in Hebrew the following battles: "UMM KATEF" / "GAZA" / "JERUSALEM" / "LATRUN" - "RAMALLAH" / "DARBASHIAH" - "JELBINAH" / "SOUTH GOLAN HEIGHTS."



RAMAT-GAN PARATROOPERS DAY-1970

This medal was issued in Israel in 1970 by the City of Ramat-Gan to honor the memory of A. Krinizi and the Paratroopers.

METAL: Tombac
EDGE: Plain
DIAMETER: 45mm
OBVERSE: Above, in Hebrew, "A. KRINIZI-REST IN PEACE;" in the center an image of Krinizi; below, in Hebrew, "FATHER OF THE CITY."
REVERSE: Above, in Hebrew, "RAMAT-GAN;" to the right, the emblem of the city; in the center, the wings of a flyer; to the left the emblem of the Israel Defense Forces; below, in Hebrew, "PARATROOPERS DAY 1970."



PARATROOPS MEDAL

This medal was issued in Israel to honor the Paratroops division and was struck in uniface as they were mounted on plaques and presented.

METAL: Gilded-bronze-uniface
EDGE: Plain
DIAMETER: 59mm
OBVERSE: Above, and to the left, in Hebrew, "ISRAEL PARATROOPS;" to the right the emblem of the Free Jump Section; below, to the left, the emblem of the Paratroop division; to the right, an olive branch.



30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JEWISH BRIGADE-1969

This medal was struck in Israel to honor the 30th Anniversary of the 2nd Regiment of the Famed Jewish Brigade. It was struck uniface as they were mounted on plaques for presentation.

METAL: Silverplated uniface, hand enameled in the center
EDGE: Plain
DIAMETER: 59mm
OBVERSE: Around the top rim, in Hebrew, "THE FIGHTING JEWISH BRIGADE;" in the center the English dates "1939-1969" on either side of a square; the outside of the square is in dark blue enamel with the center panel in white enamel, the Star of David is in yellow enamel with the number "2" in the center; around the bottom rim, in Hebrew, "2ND REGIMENT."



50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HAGANA-1968

This medal was struck in Israel to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Hagana and honors the modern founder, Eliah Golomb.

METAL: Gilded-bronze
EDGE: Plain
DIAMETER: 59mm
OBVERSE: Around the rim in Hebrew, "EVERYONE WITH ONE OF HIS HANDS WROUGHT IN THE WORK, AND WITH THE OTHER HAND HELD A WEAPON," (NEHEMIAH 4:11); in the center, the symbol of the Hagana and below in Hebrew, "HAGANA."
REVERSE: In the center within a Star of David, the image of Eliah Golomb with his name in Hebrew to his left; on the rim of the star in incuse Hebrew letters is a list of the groups that comprised the organization: "HASHOMER," "THE JEWISH LEGION," "THE FIELD BRIGADE," "THE GHAF-FIRS" (Palestine Jewish Auxillary Police), "THE INFANTRY BRIGADE," "THE PALMACH" (Commando Squad), "THE SHAY" (Intelligence Service), "THE ARMS PURCHASERS," "THE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT MEMBERS," and "THE MILITARY ORDINANCE MEMBERS."



CENTRAL STAFF ARMY MEDAL

This medal was issued in Israel and was struck in uniface as they were mounted on plaques for presentation.

METAL: Bronze-uniface
EDGE: Plain
DIAMETER: 59mm
OBVERSE: Around the rim, a wreath of leaves tied in a bow at the bottom and open at the top; in the center "the lion of Judah;" below, in Hebrew "A MEMENTO FROM CENTRAL STAFF."



METAL: Bronze-uniface
EDGE: Plain
DIAMETER: 59mm
OBVERSE: In the center, the emblem of the Zahal; below, in Hebrew, "ISRAEL'S DEFENCE FORCES;" around the rim, are the emblems of the various divisions of the armed forces. Starting with the top emblem, at 12 o'clock and traveling clockwise, the emblems are as follows: #1 Navy Commando; #2 Airforce; #3 Tank Corp.; #4 Artillery; #5 Engineering Corp.; #6 Intelligence; #7 Medical Corp.; #8 Army Clerks; #9 Police Corp.; #10 Communications; #11 Supply (Quartermaster) Corp.; #12 Service Supply (Ammunitions); #13 Infantry; #14 Navy.

TRAINING STAFF ARMY MEDAL

This medal was issued in Israel and was struck in uniface as they were mounted on plaques for presentation.

METAL: Silverplated-uniface
EDGE: Plain
DIAMETER: 59mm
OBVERSE: In the center an owl; around the bottom rim in Hebrew, "A MEMORY FROM TRAINING STAFF."



ISRAEL ARMY INDUSTRY 20TH ANNIVERSARY

This medal was issued in Israel by the Army industry to commemorate their 20th Anniversary and presented to the employees.

METAL: Brass
EDGE: Plain
DIAMETER: 35mm
OBVERSE: Above, in the center, the emblem of the State of Israel; around the rim, in Hebrew, "TO NOTE YEARS OF SERVICE IN THE ARMY INDUSTRIES;" on the bottom, below the State emblem, the dates in English, "1948-1968."
REVERSE: In the center, the emblem of the Israel Defence Forces, the sword with the olive branch, superimposed over a cog; below, the Hebrew letters, "TAV-AYIN-SHIN."

ISRAEL'S DEFENCE FORCES MEDAL

This medal was issued in Israel and was struck uniface as they were mounted on plaques for presentation.



PARATROOPS MEDAL

This medal was issued in Israel to honor the Paratroop division of Israel's Defense Forces.

- METAL:** Bronze
EDGE: Plain
DIAMETER: 59mm
OBVERSE: Around the rim, in Hebrew and English, "ISRAEL DEFENSE FORCES;" in the center a Paratrooper with full regalia.
REVERSE: Around the rim, a wreath of leaves tied in a bow at the bottom and open at the top.



ISRAEL AVIATION INDUSTRIES EMPLOYEES FUND MEDAL

This medal was issued in Israel to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the Mutual Fund of the Aviation Industries Employees.

- METAL:** Bronze / or bronze-gilded
EDGE: Plain
DIAMETER: 35mm
OBVERSE: Above, the emblem of the Industry; below, in Hebrew, "10TH ANNIVERSARY OF MUTUAL FUND OF THE AVIATION INDUSTRIES EMPLOYEES."
REVERSE: To the right, in English the dates "1958-1968;" to the left and continuing down below, a horn-of-plenty with coins spilling out.



AVIATION INDUSTRIES OF ISRAEL 10TH ANNIVERSARY

This medal was struck in Israel to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the Aviation Industries in 1963.

- METAL:** Bronze
EDGE: Plain
DIAMETER: 59mm
OBVERSE: Around the rim, a wreath of leaves; in the center a plane flying over the aircraft factory; below, in Hebrew, "NOW YOU WILL FLY TO THE HEIGHTS."
REVERSE: Around the rim, in Hebrew, "AVIATION INDUSTRIES 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PLANT;" above, the emblem of the Industry; in the center, the numeral "10"; below, the dates "1953-1963" in English.

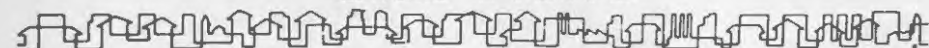


ISRAEL AVIATION INDUSTRIES EMPLOYEES MEDAL

This medal was struck in Israel to honor the National Organization of the Israel Aviation Industries Employees.

- METAL:** Tombac
EDGE: Plain
DIAMETER: 59mm
OBVERSE: In the center, two employees with hands clasped; above, a Phantom jet in take-off; below, in Hebrew, "FAST FRIENDS."
REVERSE: Around the rim in Hebrew, "STEEL WITH STEEL TOGETHER AND MAN TOGETHER WITH HIS FRIEND;" in the center in Hebrew, "THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF THE ISRAEL AVIATION INDUSTRIES EMPLOYEES;" just above, the emblem of the organization.

Club News



AINA CLUBS CREATE NUMISMATIC COLLECTABLES



Top to bottom: INS of L.I. 7th Anniversary Commemorative Medal (1976); Wooden Agorot developed by INS of San Gabriel Valley, California about 1974.



Wooden Lirot and Wooden Shekels were created for the California Holyland Expo in 1974 and for such regular events as the meetings of the INS of New Jersey in 1975.

Top to bottom: 1971 medal of the INS of Brooklyn; Six medal bicentennial set of the INS of New York; and 1969 medal struck uniface by the INS of Illinois.

TIDEWATER INS HEAD HONORED BY ISRAEL BONDS



Milton J. Becker, second president of the INS of Tidewater (Va.) and continuously active on behalf of AINA and this INS group, has also recently been honored for his special efforts on behalf of Israel Bonds.

From left to right: Gerald Peto, Co-Chairman of the Israel Bonds of Portsmouth, Va.; Dr. I. Leonard Kaplan, the recently elected president the INS of Tidewater and Co-Chairman of the Israel Bonds of Portsmouth, Va.; Milton J. Becker, Chairman of the Israel Bonds of Portsmouth receiving a plaque which is the replica of an Israel Bond; and Nat Buchsbaum, Director of Israel Bonds for Virginia and North Carolina.

FIRST PRESIDENT OF INS OF QUEENS HONORED AT INSTALLATION OF SUCCESSOR



The installation of the new officers of the INS of Queens (N.Y.) was also the occasion to honor the group's first president, Moe Weinschel. New president Bob Lane (center); Morris Bram (left) and Moe Weinschel pose for the Shekel cameraman.

Other officers are Dr. Uriel P. Federbush, 1st Vice-Pres.; Jules Lambek, 2nd Vice Pres.; Arthur Reich, Treas.; Stanley Fischer, Rec. Sec'y; and Dave Schaeffer, Corres. Sec'y. An Installation dinner medal was struck for the occasion.



LOS ANGELES ISRAEL CLUB INSTALLS OFFICERS

More than 80 members and guests attended the Israel Coin Club of Los Angeles' 11th annual Installation Banquet, reports Past President Milton Fishgold.

ICCLA, oldest of the many Holy Land specialty collecting groups in the U.S. and Canada, has traditionally installed its new officers with this banquet, considered one of the highlights of the year in the thriving numismatic community of Southern California.

Installing Officer Sylvia Haffner, author of the standard reference "Israel's Money and Medals," formally inaugurated new President Dr. Nathan Gitlin, First Vice President Alan Abelson, Second Vice President William Sadler, Corresponding Secretary Sarah Breslow, Recording Secretary Evelyn Sadler and Continuing Treasurer Bruce Silver.

Serving as board members for the next term will be Past President Fishgold, Ben Abelson, Nathan Bromberg, Helen Coombs, Carl Lerner, Phil Max, Robert Gold, Harold Gould and Lou Friedman.

A gold life membership card was bestowed on Helen Coombs in recognition of her years of meritorious service to ICCLA since the club was organized in 1965, the oldest Israel collecting organization outside Israel itself.

The entertainment, as the rest of the preparations for the ICCLA event, was arranged by Dr. Baron and wife Carol,

long-time members of the group and well-known figures in the Israel numismatic world.

Guests attending the banquet included the presidents of two Southern California Israel coin groups, Sarah Breslow of the Israel Numismatic Society of San Gabriel Valley and Dr. Herbert Drapkin of the Israel Numismatic Society of San Fernando Valley. Guests were introduced by Master of Ceremonies Ben Abelson.

Distributed as mementos of the occasion were 3½ by 2¼-inch "mini-PNCs, philatelic-numismatic combinations which included a 20.5-millimeter bronze Patrick Mint token, Israeli and U.S. stamps "cancelled" with a special "ICCLA Los Angeles, 8 Jan. 1977" stamp.

The token bears the "Shekel" obverse based on the famous shekel of the First Revolt; reverse inscription states, "Israel Coin Club of Los Angeles, Founded 1965, 1st in America. 1977-5737, ICCLA Installation Banquet, Jan. 8, 1977, Shalom."

The Thomas Jefferson one-cent U.S. stamp is accompanied by the Israeli 10-prutot red and brown "Operation Magic Carpet" stamp, recalling one of the several major segments of the Youth Aliyah movement, issued in 1955.

The Israel Coin Club of Los Angeles now has over 200 members.



A specially struck Patrick Mint bronze token, Israel and U.S. stamps join to form the "mini-PNC" commemorating the Jan. 8 Installation Banquet of the Israel Coin Club of Los Angeles.

WORD GAME FEATURED IN APRIL ISSUE OF SCROLL

The Scroll, newsletter of the Israel Coin Club of Los Angeles has included a Word Game in the April issue with a series of sentences with missing words. Example: *The only two medals of the original nine City-coin Medals which portray an ancient Hebrew coin are the C and J medals.* The answers to the 15 problems posed in the little questionnaire were provided on the last page of the publication (*For the answers to the problem above, C is for Caesarea and J is for Jerusalem*).

The publication also announced that Mel Wacks was scheduled to speak in early April to the group on an *Introduction to Collecting Ancient Biblical Coins and The First Judaeon Coins: Various Points of View*. An article on the subject of ancient Jewish coins was also presented in this issue whose Acting Editor was Claire Abelson.

TEXAS ANNOUNCES ELECTION OUTCOME

The following officers have been elected earlier this year at the INS of Texas which meets in Houston,

President	Harold Z. Nelkin
Vice President	Donald Kouri
Rec. Secty.	Charles Bruton
Cor. Secty.	Alfred M. Selsky
Treas.	Mrs. Dorothy M. Rantz
Sgt. at Arms	Dr. Sam Gold

Board Members	Jr. Board Member
Harry Rantz	Mark Gold
Irving Panzer	
Charles Porter	Hospitality Chairman
Philip Weitzner	Rosalind Selsky

An auction of donated numismatic items was scheduled for the late May meeting of the group with the proceeds to be donated to the Safad General Hospital in Israel. Earlier this year the group saw a film about Israel, *The Moods of Israel*.

GOLD CONTENT OF COINS SUBJECT OF APRIL MEETING OF WINS

The April meeting of WINS (Westchester Israel Numismatic Society) was scheduled to hear a report, *The Composition of Gold—Understanding Its Weights and Measures* to be delivered by Martin M. Morgenstern. The report was also the subject of an article recently readied by Mr. Morgenstern for readers of

The Shekel. (See article elsewhere in this issue).

The meeting was also scheduled to have a discussion on the 10 prutah coin of Israel; the Bar Mitzvah Commemorative Coin of 1961; the 5-pound note of 1948 and a talk on ancient coins with special attention to the Bar Kochba coins with amphora and palm branch.

ORACLE REPORTS ON ADDITION OF 79TH MEMBER AFTER SIX MEETINGS

The Oracle, newsletter of the recently formed INS of Los Angeles made front page news of the addition of the group's 79th member since the group was formed only six months earlier. Murray Singer, Director of the group, pointed out that many of the group's members have had no prior affiliation with any local coin club.

The March program included a most unusual presentation, *Striking of the Entebbe Medal at the Jerusalem Mint*, a film shot on location by Dr. Herbert Drapkin with special permission. Dr. Drapkin narrated through the film at the showing.

AINA ON TV IN NEW YORK CITY

In a pre-Convention publicity program, AINA's president Morris Bram, accompanied by George Gilbert and Nahum Hachohen of the IGCAM and Ann Friedner of the AINA office appeared on cable television in two (repeated) half-hour sequences.

The program was on air at dinner hour on the Friday prior to the convention. Members of the group explained the role of numismatics in the culture of any society, zeroing in on the coming Greater New York Coin Convention held simultaneously with the convention of the American Israel Numismatic Association. Mr. Bram pointed out that the convention would attract up to 8000 visitors to New York City during the four days and that the displays and exhibits rivalled those of any cultural event then in progress anywhere in the city. Viewers were invited to attend convention activities.

Medals of Entebbe, past awards and trophies and other materials relating to convention activities were shown to the TV audience which had an estimated 30,000-40,000 viewers during that time period.

DEAD SEA SCROLLS TOPIC OF CONNECTICUT MEETING

A presentation by Dr. F. Don James was scheduled for a recent meeting of the INS of Connecticut which meets at the Hartford Jewish Community Center. Dr. James spoke on *The Dead Sea Scrolls*. He is the president of the Central Connecticut State College.

The meeting was open to the public.

Plans for 1977 include the issuance of a Fifth Anniversary club medal, noted Harriet Gledhill, club secretary.

ISRAEL PARATROOPER SPEAKS AT CLEVELAND INS

Rony Sapir, a native of Tel Aviv, now affiliated with the Cleveland Jewish Federation presented a program entitled "*Entebbe—A Study of Arab Terrorism*" to the Israel Numismatic Society of Cleveland recently. Mr. Sapir served in the Israel armed forces as a paratrooper. He was wounded in Jerusalem during the Six Day War and twice in the Yom Kippur War. He has been an educator, counselor and map maker.

Milt Shapiro presented Harry Flowers' award winning exhibit which has been developed into a slide lecture by the INS of Cleveland. The Judaic Portrait Medals, produced by the French Mint with a Judaic theme, are exceptionally beautiful, and most of them are still available at reasonable prices from the French Mint.

Further discussions were planned for a limited period of time, on proposed new Constitution and By-laws.

The club obtained, through the efforts of Sanford Brown, some 50-pound Dr. Chaim Weizmann bank notes, new issue, with the blue serial numbers, to be offered to members for only \$8.00 each, reported *The Agora*, newsletter of the group.

COINAGE OF IRAN (1876-1976) THEME OF WASH., D.C. MEETING

John Jefferson, president of the INS of Washington, D.C. was the main speaker at a recent meeting of the group, presenting as his topic *Machine Struck Coinage of Iran 1876-1976*. Mr. Jefferson's point was that these coins circulate in Israel and form a part of Israel's numismatic history.

At an earlier meeting, Hershel Katz displayed about 25 small coin savings banks of different shapes and sizes. Lou Goldberg of the group has prepared a series of articles on the *Nine Coin Cities of Ancient Israel* which will be featured in the next issues of the Bulletin of the group. These coins, minted in bronze, and mostly with Greek inscriptions were issued from the First through middle of the Third Century C.E. They were issued by cities granted the minting privilege by the Romans. The city coins circulated in ancient Palestine along with the various coins issued by the Roman authorities.

TEXAS ISSUES PNC HONORING ISRAEL'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

The INS of Texas has announced the issuing of the organization's first philatelic-numismatic combination (PNC), which honors the 25th Anniversary of the State of Israel.

The product of the club's efforts is an attractive cover featuring Israel's 25th Anniversary Declaration of Independence 1 Lirot stamp (with tab), which was a philatelic sellout in Israel just a few months ago. The stamp bears the cancellation of the Jerusalem post office and is dated May 14, 1973—just twenty five years after Israel won her statehood. Encased within the cover is a brilliant uncirculated 25 agorot coin bearing the date 5733 (1973). The coin is held in an Israel blue card, which shows through the crystal-clear cover protecting the coin.

Also featured are the emblem of the State of Israel, suitably modified by including the numerals 25, and a scroll identifying the INS of Texas. The cut-out area surrounding the coin takes the shape of the state of Texas, and is the only PNC in existence with this particular feature.

The PNC was produced entirely by members of the INS of Texas as a group project. The group is indebted to Mrs. Sylvia Haffner, an honorary member of the club, who gave of her time to obtain the stamps, affix them to the envelopes personally, and arrange to have them cancelled in Jerusalem on May 14. Interested collectors may acquire specimens of the PNC by sending a \$4.00 donation to the INS of Texas. Only 500 serial numbered covers were produced.

WINS INSTALLS OFFICERS



Left to right: Morris Bram, Lorraine Bruck, Albert Schmeidler, Martin Morgenstern, Norman Herzberg.

Installation of new officers of the Westchester Israel Numismatic Society took place at the third anniversary banquet of the group on December 8, 1976. Morris Bram installed Albert Schmeidler, President; Martin Morgenstern, Vice President; Lorraine Bruck, Secretary; and Norman Herzberg, Treasurer.

Philip Sperber, outgoing President, was presented with a plaque expressing WINS's gratitude for his efforts on behalf of the Club, noted Lorraine Bruck, club Secretary.

CLEVELAND INS NEWSLETTER REPORTS ON TELEPHONE TOKEN

The State of Israel recently announced the arrival in the country of one million new asimonim, the cupronickel slotted and holed telephone tokens that are so important a part of daily life Israeli citizens.

The problem is that everyone expects the Communications Ministry to raise the price of phone calls by 25% in the spring, so everyone is hoarding the tokens. There are now between 22 and 23 million telephone tokens, valued at 50 agorot each, or onehalf Israel pound, circulating in the country. That means that every adult in the country must have about 10 asimonim in his possession.

The telephone system is gradually being converted to use the cupronickel 50 agorot coin to make life a little easier for a telephone using public now doomed to scramble for the elusive tokens. This search is particularly difficult on the Jewish Sabbath, when no tokens can be purchased, noted *The Agora*, newsletter of the INS of Cleveland (Ohio).

JERSEY GROUPS PLAN A SINGLE JOURNAL

A single journal to cover the past, present and future activities of the four New Jersey clubs has been conceived following suggestions by Eric Baelen and David Paszament, notes Andrew Rosenblum in *Nova Caesarea*, newsletter of the INS of New Jersey.

The new journal would help create a "confederacy of New Jersey INS clubs" and other suggestions include an annual numismatic workshop for INS New Jersey members.

DID YOU KNOW? IS FEATURE OF THE OLIVE BRANCH

The Olive Branch is the newsletter of the INS of San Gabriel Valley of California. One of its popular features is the "Did You Know?" column which includes such items as . . . *the first Israel Coin Club anywhere in the world is the Israel Numismatic Society, founded in Israel in 1945. Did you know why the 5, 10 and 20 mil coins of Palestine were struck with holes in the middle? Says The Olive Branch: "they provided an easy means of identification amid the widespread illiteracy of that time there."*

The group's March program was based on a slide program drawn from the AINA Slide Library, arranged by Sally Marx, Program Chairman. (An article in this issue of *The Shekel* tells how all clubs and individuals may draw upon this slide library).

COINS AND MEDALS PHOTOGRAPHED AT MEETING OF THE INS OF BROOKLYN

Members of the INS of Brooklyn were able to have coins and medals photographed as part of the regularly scheduled March meeting. Those seeking such aid were asked to come early in the newsletter of the group.

The scheduled speaker for the March meeting was Dr. Uriel Paul Federbush who spoke on *The First Jewish-American Medal*. (This subject was covered in the recent article on the same theme by Dr. Federbush which appeared in *The Shekel* during the Bicentennial Year).

Scheduled exhibits for the evening were on Settlement Medals, Ingathering and Mikveh Israel coins.

DIES OF THREE ISRAELI COINS DESTROYED



Once the minting process of Israeli Commemorative Coins ends, all dies are destroyed. Final mintage figures are confirmed by the Bank of Israel in its Annual Report.

Recently the dies of the 28th Anniversary Commemorative Coin, the 1975 Hanukka Coin and the 1976 Pidyon Haben Coin, were destroyed at the Bank of Israel.

Mr. Shmuel Peled representing the Bank of Israel supervises the operation.

"ERRORS" THEME OF RECENT PENNSYLVANIA MEETING

A presentation drawn from the AINA Slide Library, *Errors on Israel's Coins and Paper Money* by Stanley Yulish was presented at the recent meeting of the INS of Pennsylvania.

Arnold Kagan was scheduled as the speaker at the April meeting of the group. He is the publisher of the wellknown reference work on Israel's money and medals.

ZERDER EXPLAINED HOW TO SET UP AN EXHIBIT

The intricacies of setting up an exhibit were reviewed for the members of the INS of Queens (N.Y.) by Morty Zerder, an experienced numismatist and a frequent exhibitor.

Topics for discussion at the same meeting included the 25 mils coin; the Alexander Jannaeus coins of ancient times; fractional notes of 1948, 1952 and 1953; the 1958 Menorah Commemorative Coin; and the Valor and Shavit medals, announced David Schaeffer in the group's newsletter.

SOUTH NEW JERSEY GROUP REACHES 60 MEMBERS IN FIRST YEAR

The INS of South Jersey headlined its lead editorial, *Who Would Have Thought It?* in announcing that the group now has over 60 members in its first year of operation.

The April meeting was due to hear Rabbi Albert L. Lewis speak on *The Old and New in Numismatics*, a talk which shows the relationship between the old coins and their modern counterpart. An anniversary gift was planned for each attendee at the meeting.

The group offers a door prize to those attending but will not present prizes if the "name" drawn is not present. Accordingly, David Paszament, Ray Verbit and Elmer McNamara were notified that their names were drawn but that they failed to notify the chairman. They lost the following "prizes": a four-door Cadillac, a honeymoon for two in Lebanon and a case of Irish whiskey.

The group's May meeting was scheduled to discuss coins, medals and paper money of Palestine.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A NON-NUMISMATIST COMMENTS AS A TOUR MEMBER

Dear Morris:

Florence and I would like to extend our deepest appreciation and thanks for permitting us to participate in the recently concluded Study Tour to Israel.

One of the greatest gifts a parent can provide a child is knowledge. The second greatest gift is inspiration. You took us into the AINA family and we have returned to America changed because your Tour gave us the knowledge and the inspiration which will shape so much of our tomorrows. We are tremendously moved by the organization, its people and their works on behalf of both America and Israel.

Our own participation came about as a result of a small dream: we had always deferred ANY overseas trip until our first such adventure would center on Israel. When the Editor of THE SHEKEL, George Gilbert, invited us to join your tour, we were encouraged to share the adventure both as an introduction to Israel and also as a part of a group experienced in planning and conducting a comprehensive tour experience. You more than fulfilled our dream.

We look forward to being associated with AINA; we plan to attend the coming convention. We hope to again share the future Study Tours, this time with other members of our family circle and friends. We have learned from you how to impart the knowledge and to share the inspiration.

Thank you for your own contribution to making this first time in Israel such an overwhelming experience.

Sincerely,
Philip and Florence Stogel

Dear Editor,

In the February issue of the new Israeli numismatic monthly, "Shekel", there is a news item which might be of interest to your readers: The discovery of a UNIQUE "Italian Lamp" coin in PROOF (letter "mem"), with the mistake in spelling, "hey" instead of "chet" and "nun" instead of "kaf".

The mistake was first reported in AINA'S SHEKEL, (Vol. 5 No. 3) but referred to as the "Italian Lamp" in Unc., as opposed to the alm coin, which is in Proof.

The misminted coin was also cataloged by Mrs. Sylvia Haffner in Kagan's "Israel's Money & Medals 1948-1973", page 79.

Mr. Israel Zedaka, the Vice President of the IGCAM thinks that the Proof coin with the "Hanuniya" mistake is UNIQUE. Anyhow, there exist only 3 - 4 coins with the mistake altogether, according to Mr. Zedaka.

The coin, whose picture appears in "SHEKEL" Vol. 5 No. 3, is UNC.

Yours sincerely
R. Nardy, AINA #4494
Tel Aviv

TRANSLATION OF LETTER OF MR I. ZEDAKA
Dear Sir:

We acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 2. 20. 77.

As far as we know the few coins of the "Italian Lamp" with the word "Hanuniya" appearing on them, are Unc., not Proof. In my opinion, a Proof coin with this mistake is unique, if the rest of the coins with the misspelling are Unc., and this must and can be checked.

Anyhow, the quantity of the misspelled coins is 3 - 4, and their value to the collector is extremely high.

Sincerely
Israel Zedaka,
Vice President, IGCAM.
Jerusalem

OUR CATALOGS

Dear Editor,

Numismatics and Syngraphics reflect the Conformity and Standardization of our time. A few years ago England changed the monetary system from a unit divided into twelve shillings and twenty pence into the worldwide used division of 1 Pound = 100 (new)Pence. Soon the US will change to the metric system; in future our coins will be weighted in Grams instead of in Grains.

This conditions that more and more catalogs will appear with ever more details. We, the members of AINA - JSCA - all INS groups - and other collectors of Israel money are lucky that we have OUR catalogs (Haffner and Kagan) which are excellent and exact in the description of Israel's coins and banknotes.

The "special" Israel catalog is a detailed DESCRIPTIVE catalog for just one country, contrary to "listing" catalogs, like "The World Catalog of Coins" or "The Standard Catalog of World Paper Money" by Arthur Pick comprising over 200 odd countries. Understandably, such "listing" catalogs cannot give detailed descriptions or pictures of every item, but must restrict themselves to the shortest possible and correct descriptions.

I am very sorry to state that the essay, "Comparison Israel Currency Numbering System" by Mr. Carl Rosenblum (The Shekel, Vol. IX, No. 6) is a very valiant but, for the Israel collector, useless effort. The last Israel catalogs by Mrs. Sylvia Haffner and by Mr. Arnold H. Kagan are excellent and exact in their descriptions and illustrations of all banknotes.

Listing about 250 countries, Mr. Pick, relying mostly on correspondence, cannot afford to assign one complete page to any one banknote! Before the very last Israel catalogs were published in 1976, there was some confusion as Mrs. Haffner and Mr. Kagan assigned different numbers to the banknotes; the 1976 catalog eliminated this. Of course, there are many omissions and mistakes in the Israel catalog but researchers Samuel Lachman, Haifa, and others, are constantly reporting new details which hopefully will be included in all future Israel catalogs.

Mr. Pick has some grave mistakes in his catalog of Israel banknotes, one would expect Mr. Rosenblum to correct them. Here are the mistakes:

1. Pick Nos 1-5 Anglo Palestine Bank "Emergency" Checks/Notes.

a) Pick illustrates these notes with a BN-2 One Pound Note Series B

b) the listed date is incorrect.

Instead of correcting above, Mr. Rosenblum in his "Comments" remarks "... all destroyed

except one set given to the Kadman Museum . . . In April 1974, and again in December 1976 after Mr. Rosenblum's Comparison was published, ONE complete set was offered for auction in New York! Rumor has it that additional 3-4 sets are "around". Mr. Rosenblum participated in both auctions and should have known the facts.

2. The first two Security issues BN 1 - BN-5 and BN 6 - BN 10, as well as all the Fractionals of Israel are NOT DATED! In his comparison Mr. Rosenblum not only puts the issuing year into his list, he even adds the month of issue to the BN 1 - BN 5 series. This is a very serious and dangerous mistake. Sometime in the future a European collector, looking at his BN 2 Note and at the Rosenblum list will jump for joy . . . his undated note is a Major Misprint!

The description of the notes in the catalog is so exact that any novice collector can easily identify any banknote; the only exceptions are the Fractionals with the variety of Hebrew signatures which could make some difficulties. However that is no reason for Mr. Rosenblum to give us color abbreviations and initials for the Hebrew signatures. On top of it all Mr. Rosenblum includes some notes of the future which might never be issued.

Comparison? Comparison with what? And what for! WE, the Israel collectors are satisfied with OUR catalogs!

— Franz Frankl,
JSCA #1, AINA #5831
(All rights reserved by author.)

A RESPONSE BY ROSENBLUM

February 11, 1977

Dear Editor,

Franz Frankl has either misread my article or misconceived its purpose, to have each numbering system correctly identify the various Bank Notes of Israel, and correlate with each other. In comparing the Kagan and Pick numbers we find many discrepancies in Pick. (These discrepancies have been called to the attention of Mr. Clifford Mishler, Senior Editor of Pick's "Standard Catalog of World Paper Money", on October 18, 1976, for correction in a new edition. Just as Bank Notes are a portion of the Haffner and Kagan catalogue, so Israel is a portion of Pick's; however, in both cases identification should correlate and be accurate.)

Mr. Frankl's passionate defense, possessiveness and identification with "our" Haffner and Kagan catalogue does not take into account the objectives I set in creating the chart.

To cover the specific items mentioned by Mr. Frankl:

1. Pick 1 - 5 These should not be listed. Haffner and Kagan illustrate one and identify it as an emergency check, but they aren't listed. I did see the notes in the 1974 (Promised Land) and the same ones in the 1976 (Goldstein) auction. As the only known authentic set is in the Kadman Museum, we would need a certification from Dr. Kindler (or like authority) that any other set appearing on the scene is genuine. In any event, while interesting, these checks cannot be classified as currency.

2. BN1 - BN5 and BN6 - BN10 No one claims these notes are dated. My article specifically

states that the date used is the date of issue as recognized by Pick, Haffner and Kagan. BN1 - BN5 was identified by month and year (refer to above catalogues) to distinguish them from P 1-5. Any collector (European or otherwise) who is collecting BN1 - BN10 and doesn't have a catalogue would hardly use my list as his primary source of information.

3. The use of initials to more completely identify each note was done for the sake of conciseness. The article is meant to be used with a catalogue. That is why the reprints are sized to fit the latest looseleaf Kagan book. The large number of requests for reprints (necessitating an additional printing) and favorable comments, indicate that the article was useful and helpful to some people.

To bring the list up to date we have noted that two series of FC5A have a Menora (visible under U. V. light). The identification of heavy and light paper for FC5A and B does not seem to hold. FC5C is unnecessary as all gmel series 250 pruta have a Menora (seen best under U. V.) either on the right or left and will be 5D or 5E. (A true 5C without a Menora would be a rarity.) A new 50 pound note of the 1968 series (Weizmann) was recently issued with a blue serial number and should be designated as BN23A. BN23 has a black serial number. The BN27 and BN29, according to information received from Israel, have been printed and will be issued. The BN29 is expected within a few months.

Sincerely,
Carl Rosenblum

MORE ON 'OUR CATALOGS'

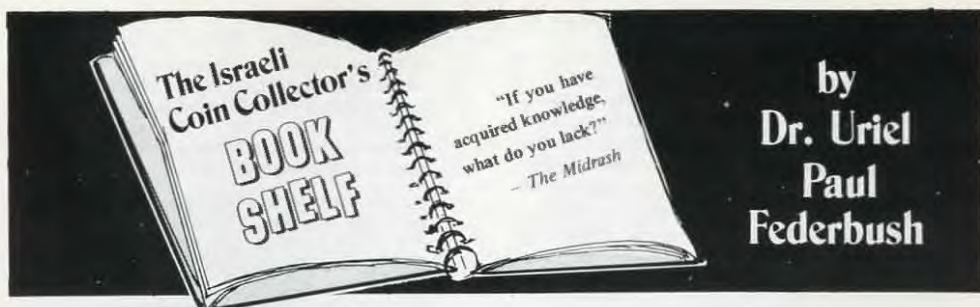
Dear Editor,

Not being in Israel should not deter any person from doing numismatic research. In THE SHEKEL (Nov.-Dec. 1976), Carl Rosenblum has provided an informative article, "Comparison Israel Currency Numbering Systems". Mr. Rosenblum consulted the two leading authorities on paper currency, Messrs. Krause and Haffner-Kagan for his charts, a chart which cross-references the currency cited in books by these authorities along with the information on all paper currency of Israel.

This method of cross-referencing and condensation has been found to aid numismatics in further research.

For any numismatist who desires to undertake a chart of this type of research there are many possible ways to start. This method could be developed between the old I.G.C.M.C. catalog, the new I.G.C.M.C. catalog and the Krause and Haffner-Kagan books. Cross reference methods should indicate which sources agree with the others. A numismatic researcher could present the medals, coins and presentation medals and also indicate which items are still available from the I.G.C.M.C. and at what price. Centralizing information on other Jewish numismatics (tokens, or scripts, or military items) in this type of cross reference method could aid future collectors. These charts could allow the collector to know where he can obtain any desired information on a specific item at a quick glance. Mr. Rosenblum's style of reporting the facts will be a good start for researchers who want to follow in this fine start.

Cordially,
Martin G. Morgenstern



Some books, although not primarily concerned with numismatics, nevertheless are of signal value to collectors and students. They have sections of interest, sometimes containing information not readily available elsewhere. The books covered in this issue fall under this classification. Though not as familiar as the standard numismatic references, they are still a valuable addition to any library. They place the numismatic aspects into their proper niche in Jewish history.

Jewish Historical Treasures by Azriel Eisenberg (New York: Bloch Publishing Company, 1968). Hard Cover. 207 p.

This book surveys nearly four thousand years of Jewish history. Written by a distinguished American Jewish educator, it conveys the sweep of Jewish existence through the centuries with many illustrations. The book begins with the archaeological excavations at Hazor (fifteenth century B.C.E.) and ends with descriptions of the Jewish Museum in New York (1948), and the Israel Museum in Jerusalem (1965).

There are three chapters directly dealing with ancient Jewish coins. The first covers Yehud and Maccabean coins; the second covers coins of the First Revolt; the third describes coins of the Bar Kokhba Revolt. In addition there are chapters about the famous Renaissance medal of Dona Grazia Nasi; and the one on the Zionist Congress depicts the S. F. Beer medal of 1898. There is also a chapter of the first stamps of the State of Israel with an explanation of the ancient Jewish coins illustrated on them.

The other chapters are also of interest to the numismatist, explaining and depicting subjects that appear on both coins and medals of Israel, as well as on other Judaic medals. To mention but a few, there are

illustrated chapters on Caesarea; the Arch of Titus in Rome depicting the Temple Menorah found on Israeli coins; the Dead Sea Scrolls; Touro Synagogue; and many others.

Inscriptions Reveal—Documents From the Time of the Bible, The Mishna and The Talmud (Jerusalem: Israel Museum, 1972) Soft and Hard Cover. 126 p. in English, 281 p. in Hebrew.

This exhibition catalogue, which is really a book written in Hebrew and English, contains a section on coins compiled by Yaacov Meshorer, a name well known to numismatists. In addition the catalogue covers inscribed pottery; weights and measures; seals; burial inscriptions; and others from the periods mentioned in the title. It is stated in the book that "of all the means placed at our disposal by archeology for reconstructing the past, no other is comparable to inscriptions." Thus ancient Jewish coin inscriptions play a significant role.

The exhibition commemorated the twenty-fifth anniversary of Israel, and therefore the exhibits were gathered to relate to the history of the Jewish people in their homeland during periods of the First and Second Temples, the Mishna, and the Talmud. These were periods of national independence or strife for autonomy.

The section on coins is excellently illustrated by photos and line drawings. It starts with the Yehud and Jehezkiya coins, and spans the era to the Judaea Capta issues. Some City Coins are also included. There is a concise description how the coin inscriptions have shed light on some heretofore unknown aspects of Jewish history. The coins are placed in their correct historical perspective with other archaeological finds, all of which comple-

ment each other to give us a clear historical overview of the times.

Catalogue Of The Jewish Museum London edited by **R.D. Barnett (London: Harvey Miller, 1974) Hard cover. 184 p. + CCVII plates.** This volume is produced in the very best tradition of the finest art books. It is a truly beautiful volume. The colored plates placed throughout the book are separately done, and then pasted into the book. Their clarity and quality are outstanding.

This book is possibly the most opulent Jewish museum catalogue ever published. It contains the entire collection of the London Jewish Museum. Many aspects of Judaica are enumerated and illustrated. Twelve of the large plates depict coins and

Jewish medals. The coins cover nearly all aspects of ancient Jewish numismatics, including Seleucid Syrian and Judaea Capta items. The medal section is perhaps the more interesting, as there are excellent plates of famous Judaic medals spanning the time from the sixteenth to the twentieth centuries.

There is an interesting collection of "False Shekels", and many medals commemorating Jewish personalities, places, and events. The frontispiece depicts a beautiful creation of the famous Jewish medallist Paul Vinze in honor of Wilfred Sampson Samuel, the first chairman of the London Jewish Museum.

As indicated, this is a truly beautiful book and is highly recommended.

CHAGALL (Cont.)

The harp had exceptional importance in olden times in religious ceremonies, victory marches and celebrations of Thanksgiving.

Examples of statues that describe the musicians that played on the harp were brought to Israel from countries of the Mediterranean that apparently date from the Third Millennium B.C. There are also marble statues from the Second and First Millennia B.C., from Crete and Cyprus, that show people strumming a harp. These normally were used in religious ceremonies. There are also exceptionally beautiful pictures of people playing the harp in the classical art of ancient Greece and Egypt.

It is not surprising, that in Israel too, as a meeting place of the various cultures, the harp assumed such an important position, used for victory celebrations and various religious ceremonies mentioned in the Bible. King David is the most famous Harpist of the Bible. In addition, many prophets and musicians played in the Temple.

According to Josephus Flavius, there were 30,000 harpists playing at the dedication of King Solomon's Temple.

Job also mentions the harp. Israel is the only country in the world which has an international harp competition once every three years. Harp players from various countries gather in the capital in order to play on the strings of this noble instrument.

The man that gave us the songfest and the Israeli festival, Mr. Aaron Profus, also gave us this harp contest. It is interesting to note that in the past, the contest was organized with the financial backing of government offices. This time the art of the painter provided the basis for covering trip and hotel costs of the musicians.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Cont.)

the age of the Board which first sat in the formative days. The average club of today is three times or more larger than the average club of the first years.

AINA belongs to its members at large. In addition, through their clubs, through their elections to the Board, through their participation in the Convention and the concurrent celebrations of the Tenth Anniversary, the organization dreamed of by the original and later Board members no longer with us (*Maurice Frankenhuis, Nathan R. Goldman, Ben Spencer and Maurice M. Gould*), has left its childhood.

A new era emerges. Thank you for the opportunity to share in this dream. Nothing in my life has been to me what seeing this lusty infant come to life could be has had so much meaning. *Imagine what we have all done together: we have brought the ideals of Israel to thousands of homes, to dozens of cities – and to each other.*

Could you imagine a better reason for reaching to the moon – and getting stardust in your eyes?

Shalom,
Morris Bram
President



AN AMERICAN JEWISH MEDAL GIVEN TO NON-JEWS ONLY

By Dr. Uriel Paul Federbush

Upon the outbreak of World War I the American Jewish Relief Committee was founded. Alarmed by the suffering of Jews in wartime, such leaders of American Jewry as Jacob H. Schiff, Louis Marshall, and Felix M. Warburg, established this organization on October 24, 1914. At the same time the Central Relief Committee was founded by Orthodox Jewish leaders.

Very shortly thereafter the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee was formed to distribute the funds collected by these two agencies. Popularly called the "Joint", this charitable expression of the American Jewish community has been doing its humanitarian work to this very day, aiding needy and helpless Jews throughout the world. It is today a major component of the United Jewish Appeal.

The American Jewish Relief Committee found that many non-Jews also answered its request for funds. Some donated meaningful sums. The Committee therefore sought a token to express its appreciation to these donors. At the suggestion of August Kohn of South Carolina, a medal was struck in copper, and *its recipients were restricted to non-Jews*. It was designed by J. Kilenyi, an Argentine sculptor.

The obverse of the medal depicts the tattered and suffering figures of two children and a woman reaching up for help to a mother figure representing the idea of relief and aid. At her left is a globe representing the world-wide efforts of the Relief Committee. Behind her, rays of light represent hope. At either side, two seven branched Menorahs surmounted by Stars of David represent the Jewish auspices of the effort. In exergue, a wreath and branch represent the hope for peace.

The reverse of the medal is bordered with a ring of flowers. Inside is a circular legend identifying and dating the issuing organization, AMERICAN JEWISH RELIEF COMMITTEE FOR SUFFERERS FROM THE WAR 1914-1918.

In the center is the inscription, "When Suffering Humanity called, You Responded Nobly," a quote chosen from over one hundred seventy five suggestions. The example illustrated bears the initials "E.S.W." at its superior border, having been presented to Elton Sumner Wilde. The medal had been given to the American Jewish Historical Society in 1969 by Judge Samuel Barolt of New Bedford, Massachusetts.

Continued on page 83

MASADA MEDAL OFFERED BY IGCAM IN 44MM SIZE

In the January/February 1977 issue of *The Shekel*, the article "Masada Medal Issued to Promote Evangelism" offered the Official State Medal of Masada.

The Masada Official State Medal is available in *bronze 45mm* (not 59mm). The 59mm version of this medal was sold out over five years ago and in 1971 the 45mm size was introduced.

A catalogue of all IGCAM medals and ordering information may be obtained from IGCAM, 641 Lexington Ave., N.Y. N.Y. 10022.

ALEPH BETH (Cont.)

sary of the Bank of Israel in 1964, and a victory coin in 1967 commemorating the Six Day War. At this date only the Herzl 20-pound gold piece may be possessed by an American collector.

(Editor's Note: All may now legally own/sell/trade gold coins.)

Modern Israel coinage is relatively new, so that American collectors do not classify grade in numerous conditions, i.e., *poor*, *good*, *fine*, *uncirculated*, and *proof*, each with their sub-classifications of *about* and *very*. Israel coins are sought in either *circulated* or *uncirculated* condition. Both American and Israel minting authorities recognize that *proof coins* and *proof-like coins* are special coins made for collectors, and not for general circulation. There are differences.

A true proof coin is made from specially polished planchets (blanks), struck from specially polished dies and coined under much greater pressure than ordinary coins. If only one or two of the foregoing is used in the striking of special coinage the result will be a proof-like coin. With the exception of the one-and five-pound 10th anniversary commemorative issues of 1958/5719, Israel's proof coins are marked with the Hebrew letter "mem" (abbreviation for *Meyuchad*, meaning special).

This page welcomes inquiries from beginners. If editorial space is not available, the staff will endeavour to answer by mail.

ANCIENT COINS (Cont.)

the second and third years. Indeed, the coin pictured on the cover of this magazine is a common, but lovely issue of the third year.

Large silver coins of Bar Kochba, with a lulav and etrog on the obverse, and the Temple facade on the reverse, are sometimes also referred to as "shekels." In fact, however, these are better described as "tetradrachms," or "sela", as the Talmud calls them.

One fascinating thing about the Jewish shekels of the First Revolt is that nobody knows who issued them. The war against Rome was a time of both internal strife among the Jews, as well as war against the Roman legions led first by Vespasian and later by his son Titus.

At the time the war began the Jews were split into several factions, and to this date it is not really known which one of these factions—or perhaps some central governing body—actually issued the coins.

It is obvious because of their date of issuance that the Jewish shekels could not have been the "thirty pieces of silver," supposedly paid to Judas.

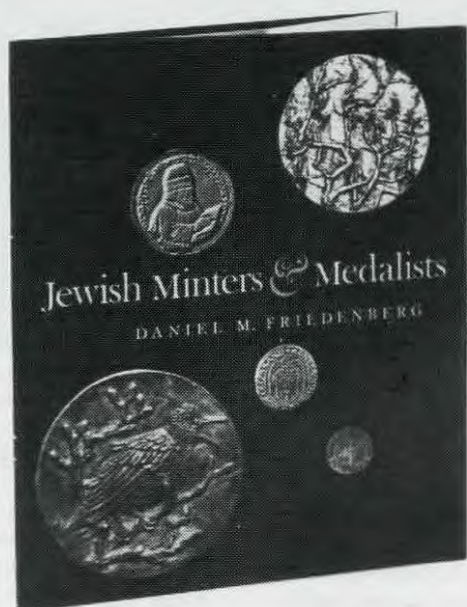
The thirty pieces may well have been shekels of Tyre, which circulated in Ancient Israel at the time. In fact, the Tyrian shekels—and especially the half shekels—were used for years by the Jews as payment of the Temple taxes.

(David Hendin will answer your questions about ancient coins. Send questions with photographs or rubbings of coins, if necessary, to Hendin, in care of The Shekel. DO NOT send the coins themselves.)

JEWISH RELIEF (Cont.)

The medal measures 50 millimeters in diameter. In awarding it, the qualifications were set so high, that only eighty-seven were distributed throughout the entire United States. One recipient wrote the Committee,

"I regard this medal as a most priceless heritage which I shall pass down to my children's children. True, its intrinsic worth is negligible, but it symbolizes the gratitude and affection of three millions of Jews in America and the blessings of additional millions in Europe. No jewel in the world could surpass its spiritual value."



FRIEDENBERG WORK ON MEDALS SPANS THE CENTURIES

JEWISH MINTERS AND MEDALISTS
By Daniel M. Friedenberg
\$12.50 132 pages, Over 200 illustrations
ISBN 0-8276-0066-6

In this latest volume of The Jewish Publication Society of America, Daniel M. Friedenberg, Curator of Coins and Medals at the Jewish Museum in New York and a Fellow of the American Numismatic Society, presents a pictorial history of Jewish coiners and medalists. The material included ranges from rare Yehud coins dating from the 4th and 5th centuries B.C.E. to the commemorative medals of modern Israel. Beautifully illustrated throughout, **JEWISH MINTERS AND MEDALISTS** affords an authoritative look into a little known but fascinating aspect of Jewish history.

The first part of the book deals with the role of Jewish moneyers, minters, and mint masters in medieval Europe and under the rule of Islam. The second part takes up the story of Jewish medalists from the 18th century to present times, and includes the work of such prominent contemporary American Jewish sculptors as Chaim Gross, Jacques Lipschitz, William Zorach, and Leonard Baskin. A special section is devoted to the production of medals in Israel.

Major figures whose work is examined include Jacob Abraham and his son Abraham Abramson, Royal Medalists in late-18th-century Germany; Samuel Judin, co-head of a Russian mint in the 18th century; the Wiener Brothers of Belgium, the foremost Jewish medalists of the 19th century; and Moritz Furst, whose works include a portrait medal of Andrew



George Gershwin by A. Eisenberg

Jackson and the first American Jewish medal, occasioned by the death in 1816 of the patriot rabbi, Gershom Mendes Seixas.

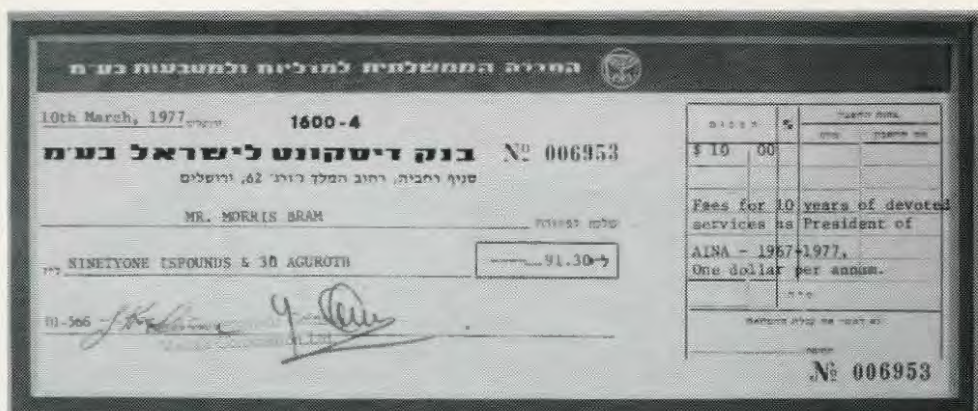
Mr. Friedenberg also cites Victor D. Brenner, who in 1909 engraved the head on the Lincoln penny; Benno Elkan, whose bronze Menorah stands in front of the Israeli Knesset; Paul Vincze, designer of the national currency of several nations; and Arthur Loewental, portraitier of Rufus Daniel Isaacs, First Marquess of Reading, among others.

Presenting material that has rarely been shown before, *Jewish Minters And Medalists* should prove an invaluable aid to collectors of Jewish coins and medals in pursuit of their hobby. It will also be treasured by all who are interested in history and art, and who seek to enlarge their understanding of the Jewish experience.



Joel, son of Rabbi Lippmann Levi. First medal struck by a practicing Jew, 1735. Welcome to Amsterdam of Rabbi Elazar ben Samuel Shmelka.

Daniel M. Freidenberg is the author of *Great Jewish Portraits in Metal* and *Jewish Medals from the Renaissance to the Fall of Napoleon (1503-1815)*.



AINA'S DOLLAR-A-YEAR TOP EXECUTIVE RECEIVES "PAYCHECK" IN ISRAELI POUNDS

A delighted audience in Jerusalem at the King David Hotel watched an equally astonished Morris Bram, unpaid top executive of the American Israel Numismatic Association receive this symbolic check from the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation's top executive, Yitzhak Avni. The check, explained Mr.

Avni, is the dollar-a-year salary of Morris Bram, in current Israeli pounds.

It has been framed and will never be cashed, stated Mr. Bram who has displayed the check in AINA's office since his return in late March from Israel after leading the Ninth Annual Study Tour to Israel.

MOST HUMOROUS



Over the years, The Shekel has published hundreds of illustrations of coin art, always to illustrate a point or to add a technical clarification. Sometimes the tiniest area of a coin has been enlarged to giant proportions to indicate the author's ideas or proofs. All such photos have been serious, dedicated, important to the story or article in which they have been presented.

One coin illustration from a past Shekel qualifies almost universally as the "most humorous" coin illustration of the past ten years.

It was featured in a column by Ed Janis who has a long-standing personal fascination with the coins of ancient times. This dated portrait of Augustus should bring a chuckle to any numismatist. That's enough of a hint.

If the humor remains obscure, send a postcard to Ed Janis, c/o AINA; he will respond with the answer; a squeezed-out tube of Crest Toothpaste; two stubs from a New York theatre flop; a 1965 Manhattan phone book; and a piece of cement from the West Side Highway where it collapsed some street from his Manhattan residence—all shipped C.O.D. collect to you.—G.G.

MIAMIANS HEAR REPORT ON PALESTINE MANDATE COINAGE

Those who attended a spring meeting of the INS of Greater Miami were treated to a surprise educational program by member Marvin Rose. He spoke on the coinage of the Palestine Mandate. He exhibited a complete set of 59 pieces of the coinage of the Palestine Mandate plus two extra "error" coins. He presented an in-depth study of the mintage figures and rarity, and gave his thoughts on the potential for investment in this series. An interesting discussion developed upon how to grade these flat coins as well.

Also on display was a set of specimen notes of the first Anglo-Palestine Bank Notes 1948, in the original album as presented to the state banks throughout the world as examples of the currency of the then new State of Israel.

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ISRAEL'S MONEY AND MEDALS (1948-1976) \$12.95

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ISRAEL INVESTOR REPORT \$10.00

A monthly airmailed financial newsletter with Market Report (in dollars) quoting coin prices with coin-by-coin details on minting. Plus full data from Government on industry, banking, investment opportunities. 12 issues for \$10.00.

GUIDE TO ANCIENT JEWISH COINS \$13.50

Includes Roman Jewish series plus city Coinage of Ancient Israel; plus Mint-City table; Hebrew and Greek coin alphabets and over 500 photos and coin illustrations. By David Hendin.

COINS AND THE BIBLE \$2.00

An original appraisal of the monetary value of coins which are mentioned in the various books of the Old and New Testament. By Martin Price of the British Museum.

JEWISH MINTERS AND MEDALISTS \$12.50

A pictorial history of Jewish coiners and medalists in the two millenia following the destruction of ancient Judea. By Daniel M. Friedenbergl.

A HANDY GUIDE TO JEWISH COINS \$13.50

Last printed in 1914 by Spink & Son Ltd. (London) this book is a known and respected reference on Ancient Jewish Coinage. Rarely available, it has commanded \$75-\$100 at auction.

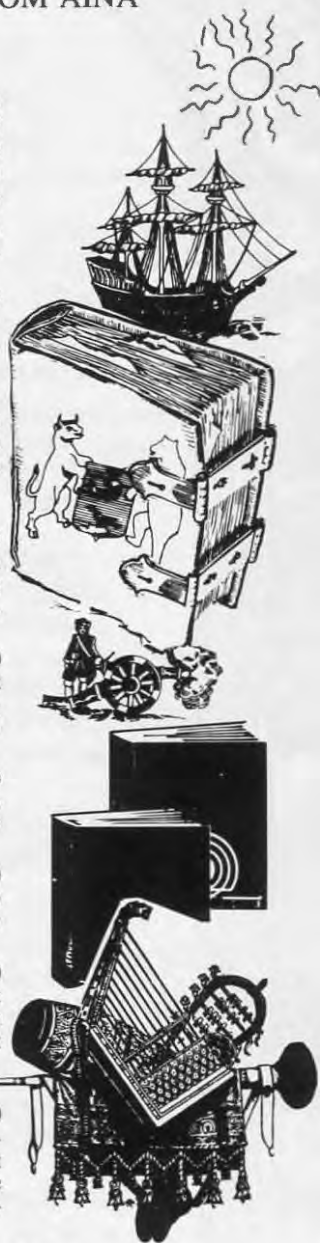
SHIPS AND PARTS OF SHIPS ON ANCIENT COINS

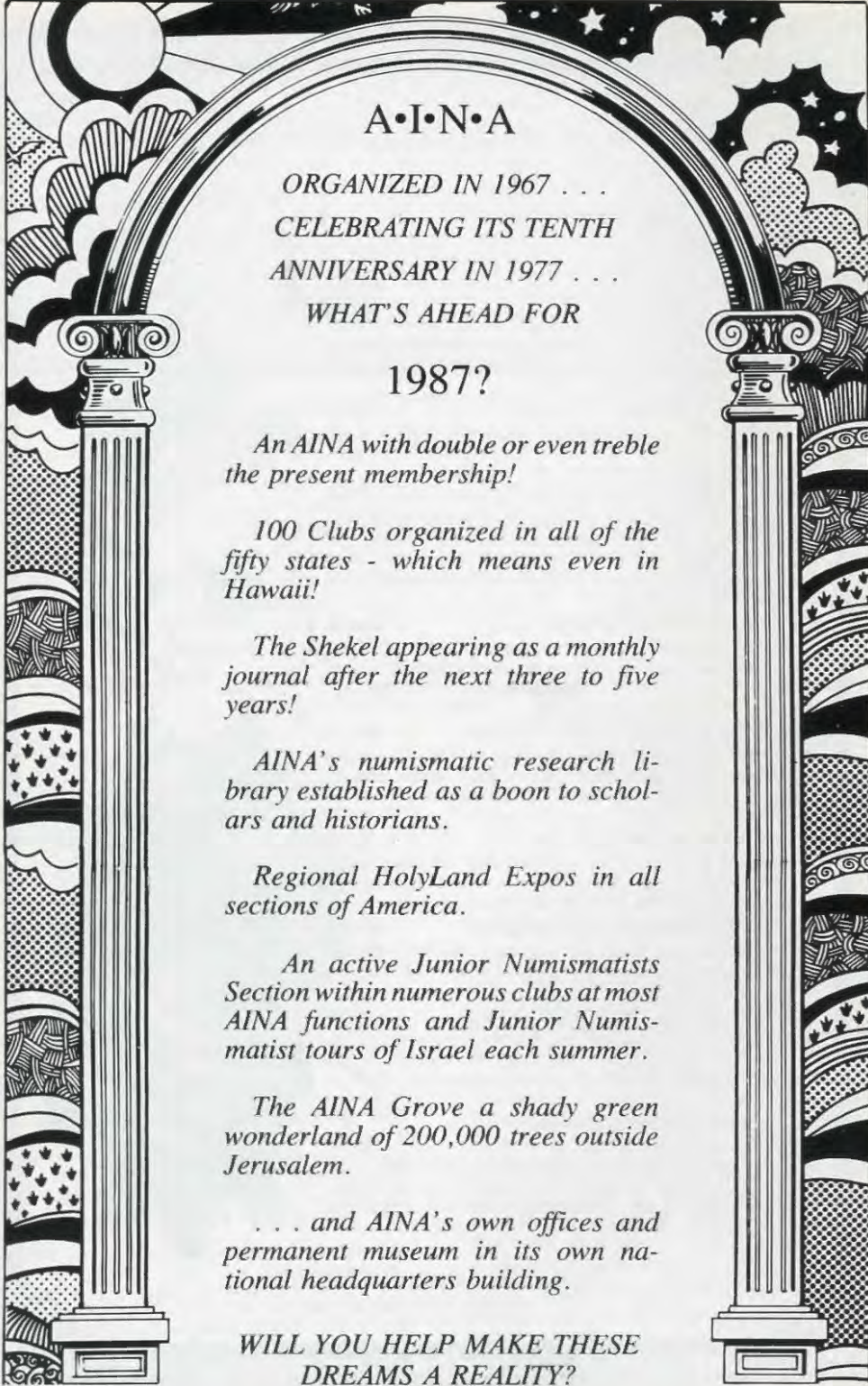
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Proclamation

Founded in 1967, the American Israel Numismatic Association now includes over 5,000 members in 52 affiliated clubs located in most of the larger cities of the United States and Canada.

The many meetings of the Association members, a bi-monthly publication, and the annual conventions all have as their objectives the increase and dissemination of knowledge of ancient and modern Israel coins, medals and numismatic items.

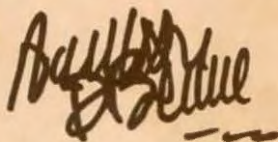
The American Israel Numismatic Association, now celebrating its tenth anniversary, is a welcome and worthy addition to the many cultural and professional ties that bind together the State of Israel and the City of New York.

Now, therefore, I, Abraham D. Beame, Mayor of the City of New York, do hereby proclaim the week of April 25-May 1, 1977, as

"AMERICAN ISRAEL NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION WEEK"

In New York City, and urge our citizens to take note of this organization's interests and activities.

In Witness whereof I have hereunto
set my hand and caused the Seal of
The City of New York to be affixed.



AINA WEEK
IN NEW YORK
APRIL 25-MAY 2, 1977